

Ministry of Higher
Education & Scientific
Research
University of Misan



Preliminary Guide to Procedures for Combating Human Trafficking 2025

Prepared by

Asst. Prof. Dr. Ali Dhahir Mohsen

**Asst. Lecturer. Safa Najah Abdul
Ameer**

Ali Sami Khayoun

Index

1. Introduction

- Definition of the guide and its objectives
- Importance of raising awareness about the dangers of human trafficking
- Target audience (students, trainers, employees, etc.)

2. Chapter One: Basic Concepts

- Definition of human trafficking according to national and international law (Palermo Protocol)
- The difference between human trafficking and migrant smuggling
- Forms of human trafficking (sexual exploitation, forced labor, begging, child recruitment, etc.)

3. Chapter Two: Causes and Motivations of Human Trafficking

- Economic, social, and political causes
- Factors that increase victims' vulnerability

4. Chapter Three: Indicators and Signs

- How to identify victims of human trafficking
- Physical, behavioral, and psychological indicators

5. Chapter Four: Legal and Institutional Framework

- Relevant national and international legislation
- The role of security, judicial, and social institutions

6. Chapter Five: The Role of Education and Training in Prevention

- Mechanisms for integrating human trafficking concepts into educational curricula

7. Sources and References

Introduction

This guide serves as an educational and awareness tool designed to enhance the understanding of human trafficking and highlight its dangers and impact on individuals and society. It has been prepared to serve as a reference for the University of Misan to raise awareness, develop training capacities, and unify national efforts to combat this organized crime.

The guide focuses on coordination between the University of Misan and the relevant governmental and non-governmental institutions to build an effective framework based on prevention, early detection, and positive intervention.

Objectives of the Guide

1. Introducing the crime of human trafficking and its legal, social, and psychological concepts.
2. Raising awareness among students and academic staff about the seriousness of this crime and the methods used to commit it.
3. Enhancing the capacities of academic and training staff to integrate anti-trafficking concepts into academic programs and extracurricular activities.
4. Providing practical tools to identify indicators and signs that may point to potential human trafficking cases.
5. Encouraging coordination and cooperation between universities, training centers, governmental institutions, and NGOs.
6. Helping to build a society protected from exploitation, especially of vulnerable groups.
7. Providing educational and training resources that support workshops and training programs within educational institutions.

Importance of Awareness About Human Trafficking

Awareness is the foundation of preventing human trafficking, as it contributes to:

1. Preventing Individuals from Falling into the Trap

Awareness helps individuals—especially vulnerable groups—distinguish between real opportunities and deceptive ones, such as fake job or study offers that may hide trafficking operations.

2. Increasing Community Vigilance

When society understands the forms and methods of trafficking, people become more capable of noticing suspicious behaviors and reporting them early.

3. Protecting Vulnerable Groups

Women, children, refugees, and displaced people become more capable of protecting themselves when they have the right information.

4. Empowering Educational Staff

Providing teachers and trainers with tools for identification, early detection, and appropriate intervention.

5. Supporting Legal and Institutional Efforts

Awareness encourages people to cooperate with authorities and report trafficking crimes.

6. Strengthening Human Rights Values

Awareness helps build a society that rejects exploitation and respects human dignity.

Target Groups for Awareness

Awareness programs target a wide range of groups, including:

1. Students

Especially those at a vulnerable age, who may be targeted through online recruitment.

2. Academic and Administrative Staff

Because of their role in detection, guidance, and early reporting.

3. Trainees in Training Centers

Particularly groups at risk of exploitation in the labor market.

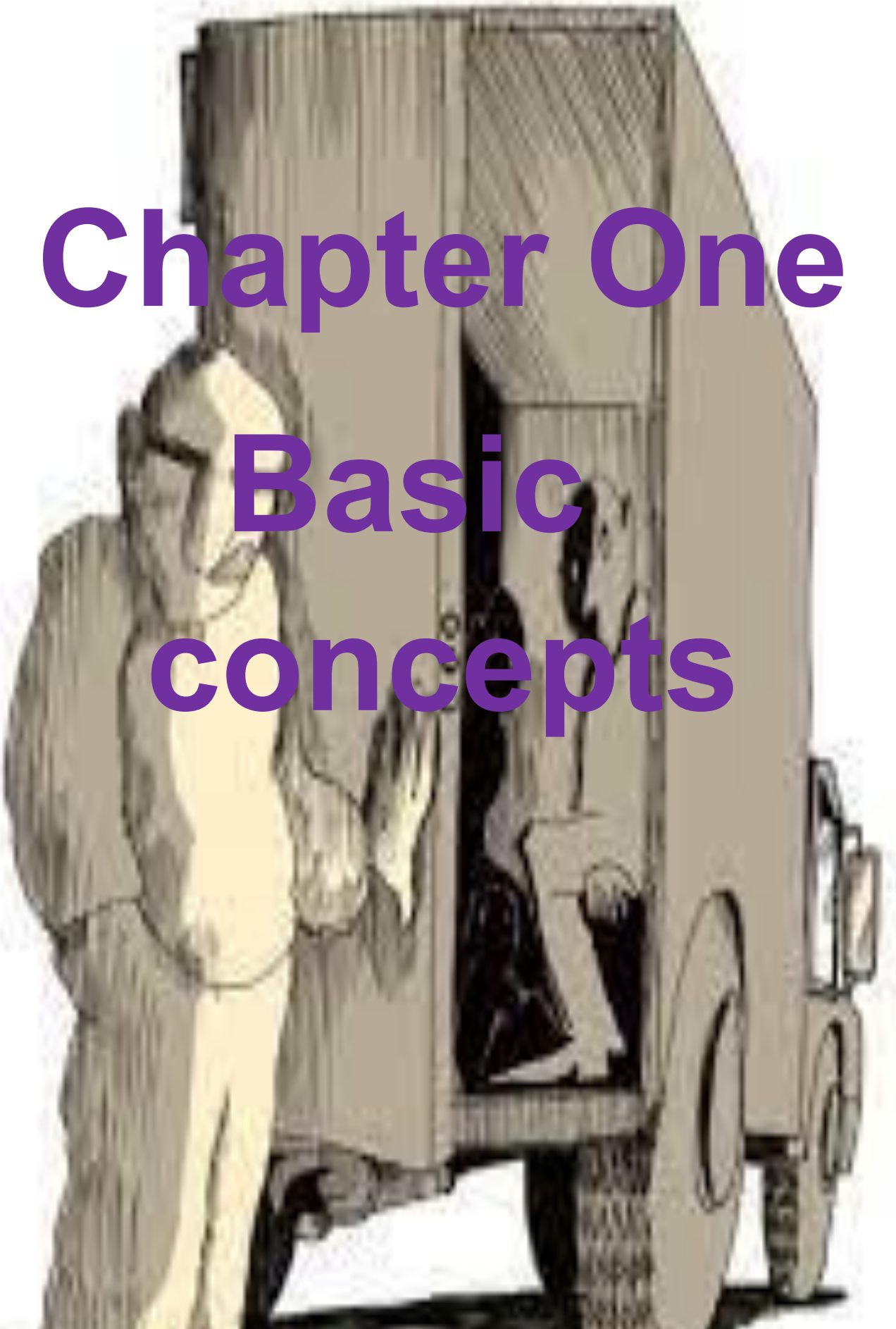
4. Vulnerable Groups

Such as:

- Children who dropped out of school
- Female breadwinners
- Poor families
- Displaced persons and refugees
- Job seekers traveling outside their home areas

5. Governmental and Civil Society Institutions

Including police, NGOs, and human rights organizations.



Chapter One

Basic concepts

Definition of Human Trafficking (According to National and International Law – Palermo Protocol)

Human trafficking is defined as the recruitment, transportation, harboring, or receipt of persons through threat, force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power, or offering payments or benefits to achieve the exploitation of a person.

◆ Definition of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, harboring, or receipt of persons by means of threat, force, or other forms of coercion for the purpose of exploitation.

The United Nations Palermo Protocol states that exploitation includes:

- Sexual exploitation
- Forced labor or services
- Slavery or practices similar to slavery
- Organ removal

According to the *2016 UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, traffickers generally fall into two broad categories:

1. Members of sophisticated criminal networks
2. Small-scale, less-organized local offenders acting independently of organized crime groups

It is common for the second category to commit other serious crimes such as drug trafficking, arms trafficking, and smuggling of illicit goods, which contributes to terrorism, conflict, bribery, and corruption of public officials.

In some cases, traffickers themselves are former victims who were left with few options after being exploited. A typical example is former child soldiers who, upon reaching adulthood, remain in armed groups and forcibly recruit others. Another example is young women previously trafficked for prostitution who later recruit other girls from their communities in exchange for money to repay debts to their traffickers.

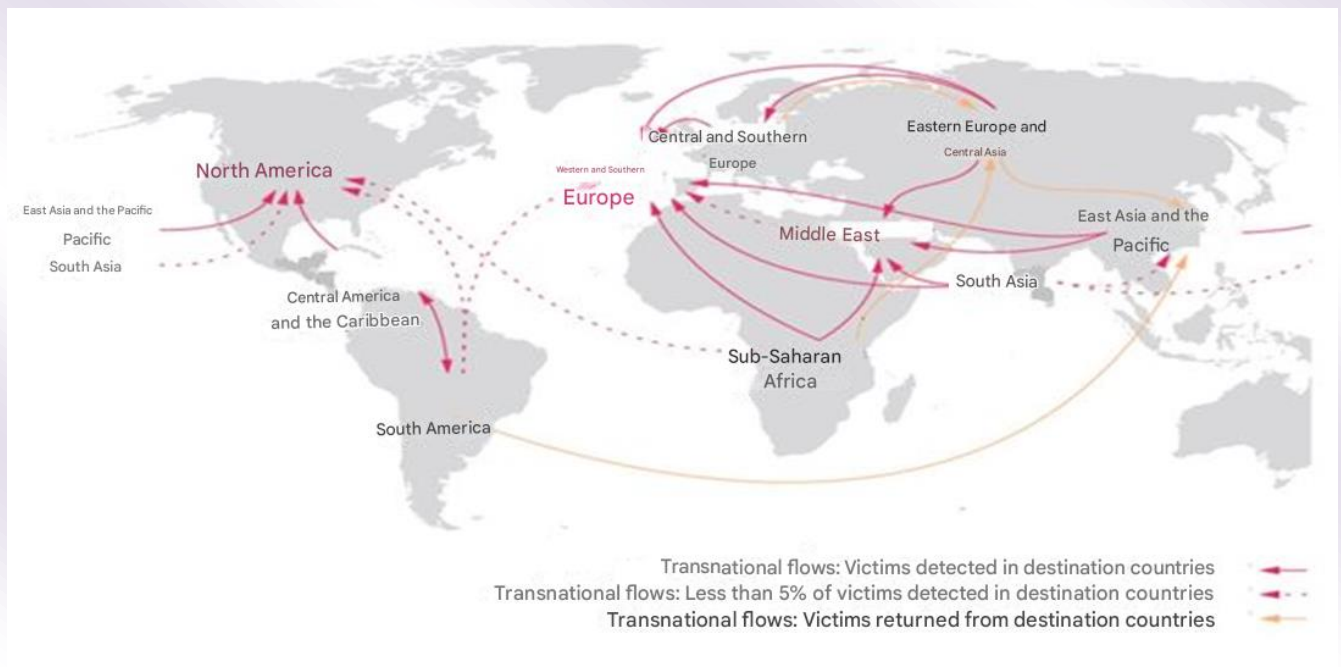
Qualitative analysis of information from court cases worldwide indicates that most trafficking cases involve individuals lured by promises of a better life away from their community, whether within their own country or abroad.

◆ Difference Between Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling

- **Human trafficking:** Involves exploitation of the victim even after arrival at the destination and often occurs against the person's will.
- **Migrant smuggling:** Occurs with the individual's consent in exchange for money to cross borders, with no necessary intent for later exploitation.

When trafficking is transnational, most victims are trafficked because they attempt to migrate from poorer or less developed regions to richer or more developed areas, or from rural to urban regions. Trafficking patterns tend to mirror migration flows from poorer to wealthier regions, as shown in Figure 1, because traffickers exploit victims' attempts to move toward areas perceived to offer better opportunities.

Figure 1: Main detected cross-border trafficking flows, 2014–2017



◆ Forms of Human Trafficking

1. Child Recruitment

- Using children as fighters, guards, or spies in armed conflicts
- A grave violation of children's rights, occurring mainly in areas of conflict or instability

2. Forced Labor

- Forcing individuals to perform work or services against their will under threat or violence, often for unfair wages or no wage at all.
- This includes labor in:

- Agriculture
- Construction
- Factories
- Domestic work (domestic servants)

3. Sexual Exploitation

- Forcing women, children, or even men into prostitution or other sexual services.
- Carried out through threats, violence, fraud, or exploitation of poverty and vulnerability.
- One of the most widespread forms of trafficking, often targeting women and girls.

4. Exploitation for Begging

- Forcing children, women, or persons with disabilities to beg on the streets for organized networks.
- Victims endure long hours under harsh conditions, often accompanied by neglect or abuse.

5. Trafficking in Human Organs

- Exploiting a person's need or lack of awareness to remove an organ (such as a kidney or liver) for illegal sale.
- Sometimes takes place under the guise of "donation," or through smuggling victims to other countries.

6. Forced or Early Marriage

- Coercing a girl or child into marriage without their consent, often for financial or social reasons.
- Considered a form of trafficking when marriage is imposed for economic or sexual exploitation.


7. Online Exploitation

- Victims—especially children and adolescents—are exploited to produce sexual content or degrading acts online.
- Traffickers may lure them through online games or social media platforms.

8. Domestic Servitude

- Holding domestic workers in inhumane conditions, restricting their movement or communication, and forcing them to work long hours without rest or fair pay.



A photograph of a young girl with dark skin and hair, looking directly at the camera with a distressed expression. Her hands are clasped together in front of her face, partially obscuring it. She is wearing a blue garment. The background is blurred, showing some outdoor structures and greenery. Overlaid on the image is large, bold, purple text.

Chapter Two

Causes

Leading to

Human

Trafficking

Introduction

January is recognized as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. UNICEF works throughout the year with its partners to raise awareness, provide support services, and advocate for systemic change. This chapter examines the underlying causes of human trafficking and highlights UNICEF's role in protecting those most vulnerable.

Even today, children, women, and men continue to be forced to work under inhumane conditions, for long hours, and often for little or no pay.

In its simplest form, **human trafficking is the buying and selling of human beings**.

Human trafficking—often described as modern-day slavery—occurs across continents and is facilitated through a variety of means. Ultimately, however, it remains an industry driven by the exploitation of people.

Historically, slavery was considered an acceptable economic practice. Today, trafficking is a criminal activity, yet **any person—regardless of race, nationality, gender, age, or economic status—can become a victim**.

Trafficking is increasingly facilitated through the internet and social media. Traffickers often manipulate victims through affection and false relationships, making many victims unwilling or unable to recognize themselves as victims.

Armed conflict, public-health crises, and natural disasters significantly heighten the risk for children. The number of forcibly displaced people worldwide has doubled over the past decade, reaching **122 million in 2024**. Displaced, migrant, and refugee children are among the most vulnerable populations to trafficking.

To better understand the nature of human trafficking and the forces that sustain it, three major contributing factors can be identified: **economic, social, and political factors**.

1. Economic Causes

1.1 Economic Globalization

The growth of the global economy and the globalization of trade are natural social developments with both positive and negative impacts. One negative consequence is that global trade creates favorable conditions for human trafficking.

As economic relations expand, markets have become more flexible and volatile. Businesses and private institutions are no longer restricted to producing and selling goods within their home

countries. They now enjoy wide opportunities to operate anywhere in the world at maximum profit. International human trafficking itself follows the logic of market principles.

Although these global economic practices do not constitute trafficking on their own, they allow criminal “traffickers” to create “new jobs” for undocumented migrants or unskilled laborers, subjecting them to severe exploitation.

Some companies choose to rely on cheap domestic labor rather than relocate production abroad, which may indirectly reinforce exploitative conditions.

1.2 Economic and Legal Disparities Between Countries and Regions

Economic and legal differences between countries create strong incentives for migration. Media coverage portraying better economic opportunities and stronger legal protections in developed nations turns these countries into irresistible destinations for those living in poverty.

Economic conditions in developing countries often deteriorate due to coups, civil wars, or cross-border conflicts. Poverty and famine intensify anxieties about the future, especially for families with children.

The absence of economic prospects, harsh living conditions, and widespread poverty increase the likelihood of falling into trafficking networks. With no viable alternative to support their families, individuals attempt to reach countries with better living conditions—often through irregular migration.

While irregular migration is **not** trafficking by itself, **irregular migrants are at heightened risk** because they cannot seek assistance from authorities in destination countries when they become victims of exploitation or abuse.

1.3 Organ and Tissue Trafficking Resulting from Advances in Medical Science

Despite the humanitarian intentions of life-saving transplantation procedures, they create an environment conducive to trafficking. The number of people able to pay for organs significantly exceeds the number of available donors. This imbalance generates excessive demand, raises prices, and fuels criminal activity aimed at making quick and easy profits.

According to **2003 data**, around **40,000 patients in Eastern Europe** were on kidney-transplant waiting lists, with an average waiting time of three years. For **15–30% of patients**, the chances of survival were extremely low. By **2010**, the waiting period was expected to reach ten years due to increasing demand.

Wealthy buyers from developed countries prioritize their health, thus intensifying the market for illegal organ purchases.

Many countries, including Armenia, legally restrict living donors to close relatives. It is prohibited to receive or request money for organs, and the trafficking of human organs is banned.

2. Social Causes

Poverty and unemployment are the primary drivers of human trafficking in Iraq. Therefore, social and economic programs are essential, as well as efforts to integrate anti-trafficking measures into Iraq's national poverty-reduction strategy. The plan also aims to embed trafficking-related issues into gender-equality, development, and anti-corruption initiatives.

These measures are built on the principle that human exploitation is **demand-driven**. Accordingly, states and intergovernmental organizations must address the factors that heighten vulnerability to trafficking—such as gender inequality, poverty, and all forms of discrimination.

3. Political Causes

According to the 2018 UN Crime and Trafficking Report—published biennially—human trafficking in the Arab region has expanded due to political instability and deteriorating security conditions in several countries.

Key findings include:

- **86% of trafficking victims in the Arab region are adults.**
 - Over **50%** of victims are exploited in **forced labor**, while **36%** are exploited sexually.
 - Many victims originate from Asian countries.
 - Syrians represent a significant proportion of victims due to the ongoing political and security crisis, which has forced many into displacement—making them targets for traffickers.
-

4. Factors That Increase Victim Vulnerability

4.1 Poverty

Women—particularly widows and single mothers—struggling to provide for their children are extremely vulnerable. Traffickers may offer them employment that appears to be their only opportunity, persuading them to comply with any demands.

4.2 Unemployment

Traffickers target the unemployed and often use deception to lure them into leaving their home country. Once they arrive at their destination, the reality of the job differs drastically from what was promised.

Traffickers may confiscate passports and IDs or deliberately incur “debts” (transportation, housing, food) to trap victims in forced labor.

4.3 Displacement

Wars, natural disasters, and political instability force families and individuals to flee. Displaced persons face financial hardship, homelessness, and cultural disorientation. Children who lose their parents become especially easy targets. Without a guardian or stable shelter, they are highly exposed to abuse and trafficking.

4.4 Lack of Knowledge or Experience

Limited awareness can lead individuals directly into exploitation. A teenager may accept a seemingly attractive job opportunity offered by a trafficker, not realizing the danger. Migrants unfamiliar with local laws, language, or their rights are similarly vulnerable.

4.5 Broken Families

People who have been abandoned, expelled from home, or placed into foster care face a heightened risk of trafficking. Runaways, homeless youth, and socially isolated individuals are frequent targets. Traffickers often offer affection and acceptance to lure victims into exploitative situations.

4.6 Harmful Cultural Practices

In some societies, the devaluation and mistreatment of women and children are culturally normalized. This creates substantial opportunities for traffickers:

- Parents may willingly sell their daughters into exploitative environments.
- Girls raised to believe they are inferior to men may leave home voluntarily, seeking alternatives.
- Child marriage, common in traditional cultures, may constitute a form of trafficking when it involves coercion or exploitation.

A black and white photograph of a person's hand reaching out, with a chain visible in the foreground. The hand is positioned in the center-left of the frame, with fingers slightly spread. A thick metal chain is visible in the lower right corner, partially obscuring the hand. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of fabric.

Chapter Three

Indicators and Signs

Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking: Physical, Behavioral, and Psychological Indicators

Identifying individuals who have been trafficked is a complex, multi-stage procedure. Its primary goal is to determine and officially acknowledge the individual's status as a victim, which is essential for initiating protection and assistance measures. Importantly, this process must begin **from the moment a potential victim enters the country**.

The identification process—described by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as “*an obligation on the part of the State authorities*”—is carried out in coordination with various institutional and non-institutional actors involved in the protection of trafficked persons. During the interview with a potential victim, several factors are evaluated to determine whether the individual should be classified as a trafficking victim (UNHCR, 2021).

According to the **2021 UNHCR Guidelines**, identification is considered one single process composed of multiple steps, typically conducted by different actors, with the aim of gradually uncovering relevant indicators. This process is divided into two main stages:

1. Preliminary Identification

This occurs at the first point of contact, whenever initial screening raises suspicion that the individual may be a potential trafficking victim.

It may be carried out by a wide range of actors, such as:

- Law-enforcement agencies
- Immigration authorities
- Healthcare workers
- Social services
- Even ordinary citizens

2. Formal Identification

This stage aims to formally establish whether the person **is indeed a victim of trafficking**.

It is conducted exclusively by trained professionals who are authorized to make such determinations (UNHCR, 2021).

Importance of Trafficking Indicators

It is essential to focus on trafficking indicators used at different stages of the identification process. These indicators help practitioners understand the context and situation of a potential victim. The presence of such indicators may raise suspicion of trafficking and trigger protection measures.

UNHCR's 2021 Guidelines propose several general indicators, including:

A. Physical Indicators

Victims of trafficking may show:

- Evidence of violence or threats against themselves or their family members.
 - Visible signs of abuse, including bruises, burns, cuts, or malnutrition.
 - Symptoms of extreme fear, anxiety, depression, or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
-

B. Behavioral Indicators

Victims may:

- Show signs that their movements are monitored or controlled.
 - Display distrust toward authorities.
 - Fear revealing their immigration status.
 - Seem controlled by another person, who often speaks on their behalf.
 - Appear unusually submissive, fearful, or reluctant to engage in eye contact or communication.
-

C. Work and Living Conditions

Potential victims may:

- Be unable to leave their workplace freely.
 - Receive no days off or breaks.
 - Live in inadequate or overcrowded housing.
 - Believe they are compelled to work against their will.
 - Experience insults, humiliation, or harassment—common in certain exploitative jobs.
-

D. Documents and Identification

Indicators include:

- Lack of possession of their passport or personal identification documents, which may be held by another person.
 - Limited awareness of their geographic location or surroundings.
-

E. Verbal and Communication Indicators

Victims may:

- Speak in rehearsed or scripted phrases.
 - Seem confused, intimidated, or fearful of law-enforcement authorities.
 - Lack basic knowledge of the local language or even their personal details (address, status, etc.).
-

F. Signs of Dependency

Victims often:

- Have little to no social interaction.
 - Receive insufficient medical care.
 - Maintain limited contact with family or people outside their immediate environment.
 - Depend entirely on the trafficker for basic necessities such as food, clothing, or shelter.
-

These indicators, as outlined in UNHCR’s 2021 Guidelines, may vary depending on the individual’s circumstances and the **type of exploitation**—whether sexual exploitation, forced labor, forced begging, or involvement in petty criminal activities.



Chapter Four

Legal and

Institutional

Framework

National and International Legislation

1. National Legislation

Based on the approval of the Council of Representatives, and pursuant to the provisions of Article 61 (First) and Article 73 (Third) of the Constitution, the following law was enacted:

Law No. (28) of 2012 – Anti-Human Trafficking Law

Article 1

First:

For the purposes of this law, *human trafficking* refers to the recruitment, transportation, harboring, or receipt of persons through the threat or use of force or any form of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power, or by giving or receiving money or benefits to obtain the consent of a person who has authority over another, for the purpose of selling them or exploiting them in prostitution, sexual exploitation, forced labor, compulsory work, slavery, begging, trafficking in human organs, or for medical experimentation.

Second:

A *victim* is any natural person who suffers material or moral harm as a result of the crimes defined in this law.

Article 2

A committee known as the **Central Committee for Combating Human Trafficking** shall be established within the Ministry of Interior, with representatives from the regions, governorates not incorporated into a region, ministries, and relevant institutions. The committee is responsible for implementing the objectives of this law.

Article 3

To fulfill the goals of this law, the Central Committee shall undertake the following tasks:

1. Develop plans and programs to combat and reduce human trafficking.
2. Provide necessary recommendations for combating trafficking and monitor their implementation in coordination with relevant authorities.
3. Prepare trafficking-related reports in accordance with international conventions and submit them to the appropriate institutions.
4. Coordinate with relevant authorities to assist trafficking victims and exchange information and expertise with neighboring countries and specialized international organizations.

5. Propose appropriate measures to assist victims and protect witnesses and survivors.
 6. Conduct awareness and educational campaigns on the risks of human trafficking in cooperation with civil society organizations, academic institutions, religious bodies, and research centers.
 7. Issue an annual report on trafficking cases and government efforts to combat them.
 8. Work toward Iraq's accession to international treaties related to combating human trafficking.
-

Article 4

1. A **Subcommittee for Combating Human Trafficking** shall be formed in each region or governorate not incorporated into a region, chaired by the governor and including representatives of the Ministry of Interior and relevant institutions.
 2. Subcommittees shall submit their proposals and recommendations to the Central Committee.
 3. The head of the Central Committee shall issue instructions specifying the meeting schedules, quorum, decision-making procedures, and workflow of the Central and Subcommittees.
-

Article 5

1. Anyone who commits any of the acts listed in Article 1 shall be punished with temporary imprisonment and a fine of not less than **5,000,000 IQD** and not more than **10,000,000 IQD**.
 2. The punishment shall be imprisonment for up to **15 years** and a fine of up to **10,000,000 IQD** if the crime is committed using any of the following means:
 - (A) Any form of coercion, such as extortion, threats, or withholding travel documents or official identification.
 - (B) Fraudulent methods used to deceive or manipulate victims.
 - (C) Giving or receiving money or benefits to obtain the consent of a person with authority over the victim.
-

Article 6

The penalty shall be **life imprisonment** and a fine of **15,000,000 – 25,000,000 IQD** if the trafficking crime occurs under any of the following circumstances:

1. The victim is under 18 years of age.
 2. The victim is a woman or a person with a disability.
 3. The crime is committed by an organized criminal group or has an international character.
 4. The crime involves kidnapping or torture.
 5. The perpetrator is a relative or guardian of the victim or the victim's spouse.
 6. The victim suffers an incurable disease or permanent disability as a result of the trafficking.
 7. The trafficking involves multiple victims or repeated offenses.
 8. The crime is committed by a public official or a person entrusted with public service.
 9. The perpetrator exploits their influence, or the victim's vulnerability or needs.
-

Article 7

Anyone who:

1. Creates or manages a website for the purpose of human trafficking, or
 2. Concludes or facilitates a trafficking-related transaction using the internet, shall be punished with imprisonment for no less than **3 years** and a fine between **10,000,000 – 20,000,000 IQD**, or either penalty.
-

Article 8

Trafficking resulting in the victim's death is punishable by the **death penalty**.

Article 9

1. A legal person (entity) involved in trafficking or committing the crime on its behalf shall be fined between **5,000,000 – 25,000,000 IQD**, without prejudice to the penalties imposed on the responsible manager if their involvement is proven.
 2. The court may dissolve the legal entity, suspend its activities permanently or temporarily, or close its premises if found guilty under this law.
-

Article 10

A victim's consent is **not recognized** under any circumstance in human trafficking cases.

Article 11

Relevant state institutions must provide assistance to trafficking victims while considering the special needs of children. Assistance includes:

1. Medical assessment by a specialized physician.
2. Linguistic assistance for non-Iraqi victims.
3. Legal counseling and informational support.
4. Communication with families, embassies, or civil society organizations.
5. Ensuring protection for victims and witnesses.
6. Maintaining confidentiality and respecting victims' privacy and dignity.
7. Providing financial assistance and appropriate temporary housing based on gender and age.
8. Social, psychological, and physical rehabilitation through specialized shelters managed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.
9. Providing employment, training, and education opportunities.
10. Facilitating temporary residence, issuing visas, or providing special travel documents when necessary.

11. Diplomatic support to assist non-Iraqi victims in returning home.

Article 12

The provisions of Penal Code No. 111 of 1969 apply to all matters not specifically addressed in this law.

Article 13

The Minister of Interior may issue instructions to facilitate the implementation of this law.

Article 14

This law enters into force upon publication in the official gazette.

2. International Legislation

The **Arab League Model Law** serves as a guideline for legislative review in member states.

- In **1981**, the Sana'a Strategy for Unifying Arab Legislation emphasized the need for harmonization while accounting for national differences.
- In **1982**, based on the Basic Law of the Council of Arab Ministers of Justice, committees were formed to draft model laws.
- The first model law adopted by the Arab League was the **Personal Status Law (1988)**.
- Subsequent model laws were drafted in various legal fields, including **human trafficking**.

Use of the model law

- Legislatures in Libya, Tunisia, Palestine, Morocco, and Yemen are encouraged to consider the **Arab Model Anti-Trafficking Law** when drafting national laws.
 - States that already have anti-trafficking laws should consult the model law when revising or updating legislation.
 - The **Arab Strategy for Combating Human Trafficking** urges member states to adopt these model legal frameworks and to organize workshops, training programs, and discussion forums to disseminate and implement the law.
-

Role of Security, Judicial, and Social Institutions

The vital role of civil society, including NGOs, is recognized in major international instruments such as:

- **The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and**
 - **The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.**
-

• UN Trafficking Protocol

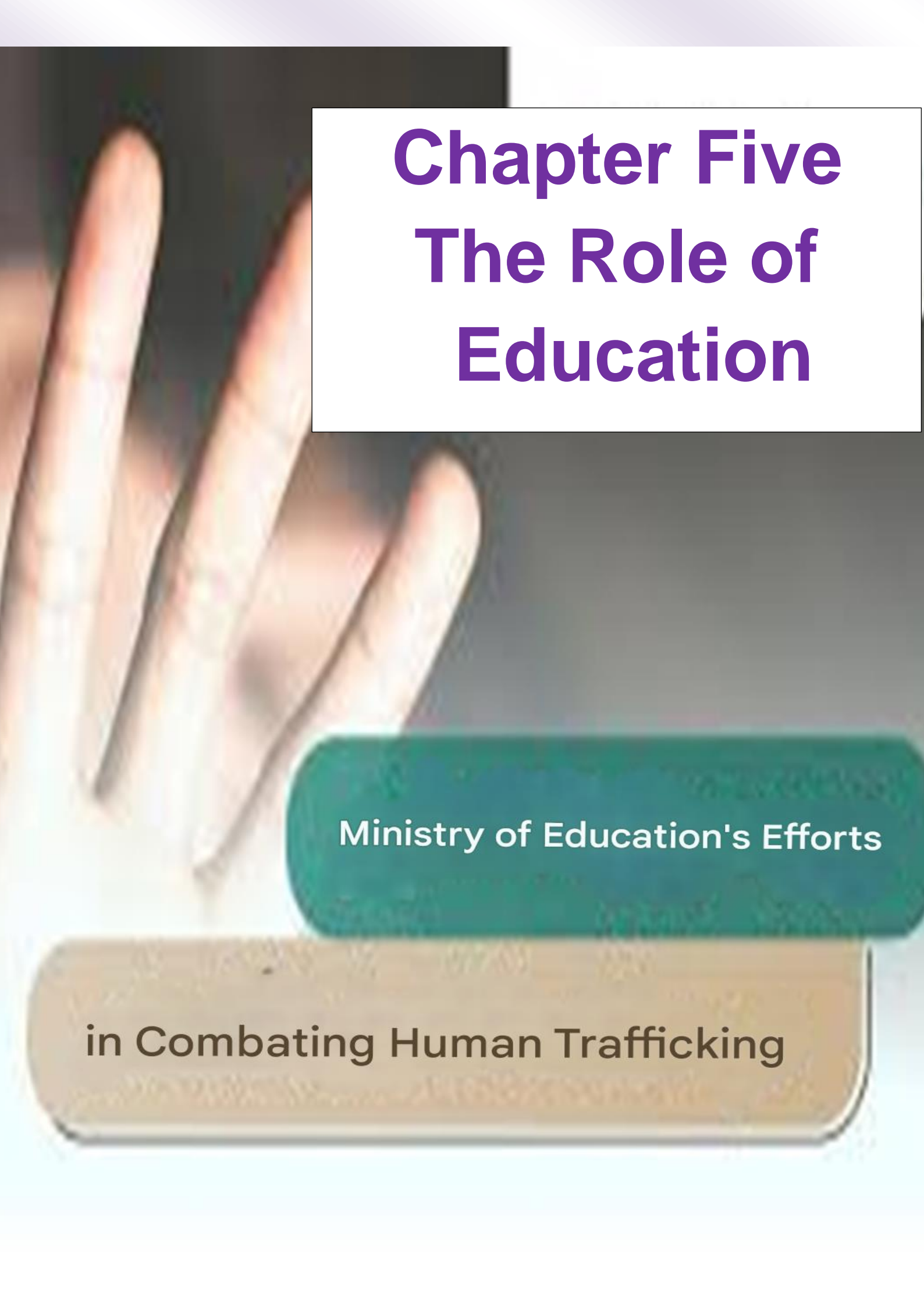
Article 6(3) of the Protocol requires states to consider measures enabling victims' physical, psychological, and social recovery, including cooperation with NGOs. Measures include:

- A. Adequate housing
 - B. Counseling and information regarding legal rights in a language victims understand
 - C. Medical, psychological, and material assistance
 - D. Employment, education, and training opportunities
-

• Council of Europe Convention

The Convention obligates states to cooperate with civil society. Relevant articles include:

- **Article 5(6):** Anti-trafficking measures should include NGOs and civil-society actors.
- **Article 6(b):** States must adopt measures—including legal, educational, social, and cultural—to discourage demand that fosters trafficking, with emphasis on the role of media and civil society.
- **Article 12(5):** States must cooperate with NGOs assisting victims.
- **Article 16(6):** States shall provide victims with contact information for institutions able to assist them upon return.
- **Article 28(4):** States must ensure protection for NGOs and individuals involved in victim support from intimidation or retaliation.
- **Article 35:** States should encourage partnerships between public authorities and civil society to achieve the goals of the Convention.

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of a person's hand. The index finger is wrapped in a white medical bandage. The hand is positioned with the palm facing slightly towards the viewer, and the fingers are slightly spread. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the bandage.

Chapter Five

The Role of Education

Ministry of Education's Efforts

in Combating Human Trafficking

The Federal Minister of Interior, Abdul Amir Al-Shammari, directed the development of an educational and awareness guide, in cooperation with the Ministries of Education and Higher Education and Scientific Research, to help prevent the crime of human trafficking. He explained that the purpose of this guide is to raise awareness among students and young people about the dangers of this crime and the methods used to lure victims, by integrating it into school curricula.

This directive was issued during a meeting of the Central Committee for Combating Human Trafficking, chaired by Al-Shammari and attended by representatives from fifteen ministries and several independent governmental bodies. The meeting discussed ways to strengthen efforts to combat human trafficking in Iraq and to enhance support provided to victims.

According to the Ministry's statement, the Minister emphasized the necessity of expanding the capacity of shelters for trafficking victims in Iraq to ensure they receive the required support and an environment that enables their rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

He also instructed the creation of an educational and awareness guide, prepared jointly with the Ministries of Education and Higher Education and Scientific Research, as a strategic step toward preventing human trafficking. The guide aims to raise awareness among students and youth about the dangers of the crime and the tactics used to recruit and manipulate victims. Integrating the guide into academic curricula seeks to build an informed generation capable of recognizing warning signs and taking appropriate preventive measures.

The statement further affirmed that the Ministry of Interior continues to exert all efforts, in cooperation with relevant authorities, to achieve the goals of the committee, protect human rights, and combat all forms of human trafficking.

Education and training play a critical role in preventing human trafficking by raising awareness, equipping individuals with the skills needed to avoid exploitation, training officials to detect, investigate, and protect victims, and empowering vulnerable segments of society. Specialized training for professionals in the healthcare, social services, and law-enforcement sectors helps them identify and respond to victims effectively. Education also contributes to building a culture of respect for the rule of law and sensitizing future generations to issues that threaten legal and social order.

Mechanisms for Integrating Human Trafficking Concepts into Educational Curricula

Integrating human-trafficking concepts into curricula requires developing instructional content focused on trafficking concepts, providing practical training for teachers on identifying victims, and collaborating with relevant partners to ensure adequate support systems. The main steps include establishing clear learning objectives, designing multidisciplinary curricula, defining stakeholder roles and responsibilities, and evaluating the impact of these curricula to ensure their effectiveness in combating trafficking and protecting individuals.

Curriculum Integration Mechanisms:

1. Clear Definition of Educational Objectives:

Objectives should focus on understanding human-trafficking concepts, explaining relevant UN protocols, and identifying mechanisms for combating this crime.

2. Developing Integrated Curricula:

This involves designing multidisciplinary curricula that include information on human rights, raising youth awareness about the risks of irregular migration, and the implications of foreign labor exploitation.

3. Training and Awareness Building:

Teachers, humanitarian workers, and healthcare providers must be trained to identify trafficking victims and provide necessary support.

4. Defining Roles and Responsibilities:

Governments, NGOs, local authorities, and specialists must have clearly defined roles to ensure the integration of anti-trafficking measures in daily activities and educational practices.

5. Use of Data and Research:

Data must be collected and analyzed to better understand trafficking patterns and to design and implement effective strategies to combat it.

SOURCES AND REFERENCES

UNODC. (n.d.). State cooperation with civil society. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Retrieved from <https://www.unodc.org/e4j/ar/tip-and-som/module-10/key-issues/state-cooperation-with-civil-society.html>

ResearchGate. (n.d.). Understanding human trafficking: Development of typologies of traffickers. Retrieved from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/237774919_Understanding_Human_Trafficking_Development_of_Typologies_of_Traffickers

UNODC. (n.d.). Global report on trafficking in persons. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Retrieved from https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Global_Report_on_TIP.pdf

International Organization for Migration. (n.d.). University manual on human trafficking. Retrieved from https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/university_manual_humantrafficking_eng.pdf

Scribd. (n.d.). An introduction to human trafficking: Background paper. Retrieved from <https://www.scribd.com/document/530613689/An-Introduction-to-Human-Trafficking-Background-Paper>

UNODC. (n.d.). The status of human trafficking legislation in the Arab world [PDF]. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Retrieved from https://www.unodc.org/documents/congress/background-information/Human_Trafficking/The_Status_of_Human_Trafficking_Legislation_in_the_Arab_World-Arabic