Human Trafficking: Towards the Development of a Comprehensive Criminal Business Model.
Joana Daniel-Wrabetz e Vânia Salgadinho

Over the last two decades, the fight against human trafficking has been receiving increased attention from different scholars throughout the world. The literature analysis shows that, due to the level of complexity of the phenomenon, there seems to be a general tendency for studies in this field to focus only on some dimensions, addressing either the particularities of the trafficking process or the socio-demographic characteristics of its victims.

This paper aims to go a little beyond this linear and partial understanding of human trafficking, by providing an innovative and holistic framework for its analysis. To narrow down this framework of analysis, the business model framework and the complex systems theory, common in the management field, have been taken as a reference and combined with criminological and sociological concepts.

Throughout the paper, it will be shown that a complex phenomenon such as human trafficking cannot be approached through the use of simplified lens and that a solid understanding of human trafficking can only be achieved by considering the whole range of actors, behaviours and dimensions that are beneath its occurrence.

Biographies

Daniel-Wrabetz, Joana
International Consultant on Human Rights/ Trafficking in Human Beings.
Graduated in Humanities (UTAD, Vila Real), with the European Master’s Degree in Human Rights and Democratization (EIUC, Venice), pursues presently a PhD in Sociology (ISCTE, Lisbon). Former Director of the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Portugal (2010-2013), responsible for the development and implementation of the National Monitoring System on Trafficking in Human Beings, member of the European Commission Expert Group on Trafficking in Human Beings from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Portugal (2011-2015), and also the National Focal Point to the European Commission Anti-Trafficking Portal. Founder and first Director of the Research, Data Collection and Analyses Unit of the NGO STOP Trafficking and Oppression of Children and Women, India (2013-2016). Develops and implements training courses on Human Rights and Trafficking in Human Beings for criminal justice practitioners (police and immigration officers, coastguards, criminal investigators, prosecutors, judges,…) for national governments and international organizations (UNODC, CPLP, IOM).

Salgadinho, Vânia
Criminologist.
Pursues an honors Degree in Criminology by Fernando Pessoa University, Porto. Developed her graduation project under the topic “Trafficking in Human Beings: The Profile of Traffickers in Portugal”, which got published by the Documentation Centre of the Portuguese Judicial Police and considered to be one of the highlights of April 2016. Performed her academic internship in the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Portugal, where she worked as a collaborator in the European Project “Towards a Pan-European Monitoring System on Trafficking in Human Beings”. Worked as an analyst (in a pro bono basis) in the Research, Data Collection and Analyses Unit of the NGO STOP Trafficking and Oppression of Children and Women, India.