

Let's Influence Together: Don't Shut Your Eyes to labour trafficking!

Don't Shut Your Eyes is a campaign that raises awareness about a current topic related to human trafficking. This year the video focuses on labour trafficking.

Here is how you can be a part of it and use it in your own work to raise awareness about the recruitment that happens online and labour trafficking.

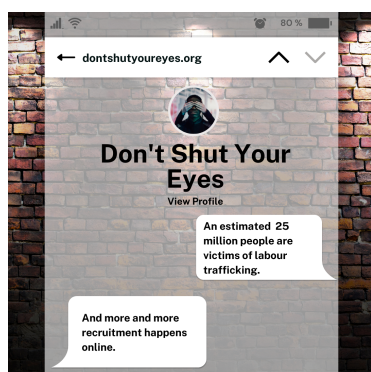
Engage on Social Media

The DSYE video will launch on Monday 18th October - the EU Anti-trafficking Day on Instagram and Facebook: like and share at 10am CET to help create visibility.

- Instagram: www.instagram.com/europeanfreedomnetwork/
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/europeanfreedomnetwork
- Youtube: <https://youtu.be/nFglRjJ8nrs>
- The video will be shared again on Wed 20th October – please like again! 😊
- Think of which audiences you would love to spread awareness within and reach out to them already now – would they also want to campaign around the topic?
- EFN will run a social media campaign prior to and after the launch on IG and FB– share and like the posts!

Use hashtags: #dontshutyoureyes #labourtrafficking #humantrafficking #europeanfreedomnetwork #EUantitraffickingday

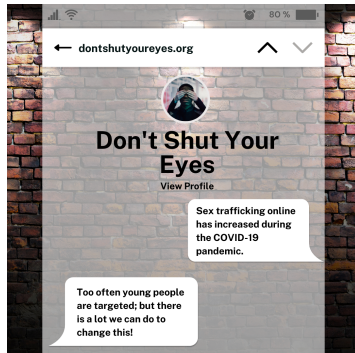
- You can download the images on the campaign website to build your own campaign or use them in awareness raising. Here are some facts that you can use in your awareness raising to go along with the images:



Statistics / Online recruitment

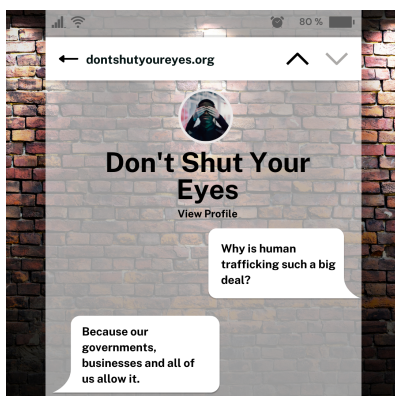
- 40 million + people are victims of trafficking globally, out of which 25 million are estimated to be victims of labour trafficking.
- Out of the **24.9 million** people trapped in **forced labour**, **16 million** people are exploited in the **private sector** such as **domestic work, construction or agriculture**; and 4 million in state imposed forced labour.
- 4.8 million persons in forced sexual exploitation.

- “Several steps in the criminal process of trafficking in human beings, such as recruitment of victims and advertisement of services, have moved almost entirely to the online domain.” – Europol Report 2021



Human trafficking online has increased during Covid-19. Children fall victim to trafficking online due to their vulnerable position.

- Internet usage is up 50% in some parts of the world following the spread of COVID-19.
- Many children’s learning experiences have been and are being reshaped by the sudden introduction of remote learning, including – where available – technology and virtual platforms as a substitute for the classroom and schoolyard, exposing younger children to the online world than previously.
- Spending more time online may increase the likelihood that children come into contact with online predators. Physical distancing measures are likely to increase children’s outreach to new contacts and groups online, which could be exploited by predators to groom children for sexual exploitation.
- Due to families losing their source of income, many children might be forced into child labour or child marriage. Research shows that child labour is often associated with economic crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic will increase the risks of children to be exploited, as well as the number of children dropping out of schools to sustain families. (UNICEF)

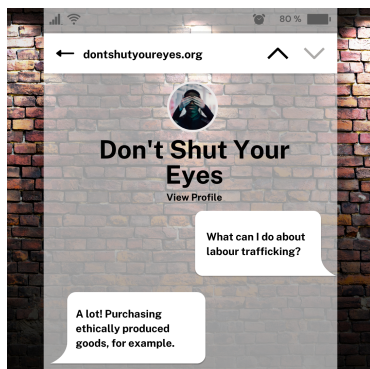


Why is human trafficking so widespread?

Individuals, private businesses and governments are paying, knowingly or unknowingly, for goods and services that are extracted from trafficking victims because our purchases and our choices to make purchases create a demand, a market force, that fuels the crime which then incentivizes traffickers to exploit people in order to realize those profits.

- Labour trafficking has infected virtually every corner of our global supply chain, from materials used in technology to textiles to our food.

- Forced labour is estimated to generate US\$150 billion per year of illegal profits in the private economy worldwide (ILO), creating the financial incentive to commit the crime.



What can we do about human trafficking?

- By knowing that when we make a purchase, whether as an individual, an organization, a business, a government, it is not rewarding exploitation, we are making a difference.
- Support and campaign for laws that will put pressure on due diligence of production and transparency in supply chains; promote campaigns that bring transparency into the goods we consume, eg. chocolate, coffee, tea, textiles etc.
- Buy and help your NGO and church have policy on buying ethical products.

Freedom Sunday 17th October

Freedom Sunday is a dedicated Sunday to raise awareness within the church regarding human trafficking - it is linked to the EU Anti-Trafficking Day of October 18th.

Use the materials on this Sunday or at a later time to raise awareness and talk about the issue at your church – and motivate other churches around you – to do so.

You will be able to access the video here: <https://youtu.be/nFglRjJ8nrs>

- Let us know if you would like to add subtitles in your language to the video – it is very easy to do so.
 - They already exist in Spanish and Romanian and soon in Portuguese.
- Consult the Campaign website dontshutyoureyes.org for materials for talking about the issue, including a prayer guide.