

kisa

Ισότητα, Στήριξη, Αντιρατσισμός
Equality, Support, Antiracism



SUPPORT TO PERSONS TRAFFICKED FOR LABOUR EXPLOITATION



Zero tolerance to labour trafficking -
Zero tolerance to modern day slavery

Labour Trafficking in Cyprus is most common in the sectors of domestic work, agriculture & farming, construction, clubs & catering services.

CIRCUMSTANCES INDICATING TRAFFICKING

Do you or anybody you know experience one or more of the following?

- Were deceived before coming to Cyprus about the actual work and/or services you/they would provide and/or terms and conditions of work.
- Paid such a considerable amount of money to any “agents” for the facilitation of your employment in Cyprus that you feel captured and unable to complain against exploitation and violations of your rights.
- Forced under threats and blackmailing to work in jobs other than that initially agreed on or forced to work for other employers with or without pay, or forced to provide other services not included in contract.
- Are not paid at all, or are not paid as per contract, or long delays in payment.
- Forced under threats and or restrictions of your freedom to undergo / accept:
 - Working hours much longer than in contract,
 - No Sunday or other day off.
 - Inadequate housing and/or living conditions.
 - Inadequate, poor-quality or no food.
 - Violation of private life.
- Withholding of personal documents (passport, residence permit, “alien book”, bank book) in order to control you and stop you from seeking help and report violations of your rights.
- Physical and/or psychological and/or sexual violence and/or verbal abuse and/or threats.

PERSONS, FOR WHOM THERE ARE REASONABLE GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN/ARE BEING TRAFFICKED (POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING), ARE ENTITLED TO:

- Information on their rights as potential victims of trafficking and the right to decide whether to report the offence to the competent governmental authority and cooperate with the police in order to prosecute the offenders/traffickers.
- The right to reflection period: a period of time during which they can think, in a safe environment, whether they agree to cooperate with the police for the prosecution of the traffickers. During the reflection period they are entitled to: housing, welfare assistance & free access to health care.
- Information on the procedures that will follow, their own role in such procedures and on their rights (see below), in case they agree to cooperate with the police for the prosecution of the traffickers.



TAKE ACTION

REPORT LABOUR TRAFFICKING

KISA and TCHRF are non-governmental organisations working in the fields of migration, asylum and trafficking in human beings, among others. If you decide to contact us because you believe that you or a person you know experience trafficking for labour exploitation, we will discuss your concerns with you and inform you of your rights and the ways we can support you to claim them. All the information we will receive from you / a person you know is strictly confidential and we shall not and do not use any information without your consent.



If you agree to report your experience to the competent governmental authority, which is responsible for the official identification of victims of trafficking, we will work with you and the competent authority for the investigation of trafficking cases, so as to make sure you will go to a safe place, where you will be protected and your rights safeguarded. No information is to be leaked to either the government or the employer, or to any other person/body/authority without your direct consent.

Trafficking of human beings is considered to be a serious crime and the authorities have an obligation to prosecute traffickers and protect persons experiencing trafficking conditions. Traffickers must be brought before justice and in this case, you will be asked to consent to be a witness at court procedures for their prosecution. If you consent, you will be treated and protected as a witness in a criminal case.

PERSONS RECOGNISED BY THE COMPETENT GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY AS VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ARE ENTITLED TO:

Assistance and support are provided only with the consent of the trafficked person.

Assistance and support during criminal proceedings and for an appropriate time after their conclusion.

Access to the labour market (in any occupation) under the same conditions with Cypriots and other European citizens.

Access to the Social Welfare Services, the Director of which is considered to be their guardian.

Proper living conditions, including decent and safe housing and material assistance.

Full and free access to health care, including psychological support and counselling services that should be confidential.

Have their special needs (such as in relation to health issues, age, pregnancy, trauma, disabilities, history of abuse, etc), if any, attended to.

Translation and interpretation services.

Information, including on:

- how to seek and receive international protection;
- which services and/or organisations they can turn to for support;
- the type of support they have access to.

Legal advice, legal aid, legal representation and information on how to access these.

No prosecution in relation to their involvement in criminal activities that they have been compelled to commit as a result of them being trafficked.

Reimbursement in regards to their expenses related to their participation in criminal proceedings.

Compensation and information on how to access it.

Support for integration/reintegration in Cyprus or in the country of origin under conditions of safety.

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KIBRISLI TÜRK İNSAN HAKLARI VAKFI
TURKISH CYPRIOT HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION

If you or anybody you know experience any of the above, then it is highly possible you/they experience trafficking. For information, advice and/or help, **please contact:**

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