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# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



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# SOCOMUN XXXIII

## FRESHMAN #16

TOPIC: COMBATTING HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING



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## Freshman #16 Combatting Human Trafficking

Hello delegates! My name is Milla Van Broekhoven and I am a junior at SM. I feel honored and excited for the opportunity of being your head chair for this year's SOCOMUN Conference. I enjoy playing tennis, travelling, shopping, and going to the beach with my friends. I have had such a rewarding experience participating in MUN as I have met many friends and gained so much experience dealing with ongoing conflicts and issues that are faced all over the world. MUN has helped empower me to speak up and has allowed me to grow in many ways including my public speaking skills, essay writing abilities and critical thinking skills. I know that for many of you this will be your first conference, so I recommend not stressing and just trying your best. I highly advise all delegates of this committee to feel comfortable and confident when discussing their countries policy on the topic of combatting human trafficking. I look forward to meeting you all and hearing all the solutions you have come up with! All delegates are expected to work respectfully with other delegates and try their best. Good luck!

Hi friends! I am Eric Dai! I am a Junior at Santa Margarita and I'm your Vice Chair for SOCOMUN 2024. It's my third year participating in MUN, and I have participated in 11 conferences. Besides MUN, I enjoy making short films and playing piano. I'm also a competitive Rubik's Cube speed solver and got into the semifinals in the 2023 World Championships. Welcome to the MUN community and good luck delegates! Hope to see you on campus in September! ^\_^

Hello delegates, I'm Olivia Iocona and I will be your rapporteur for SOCOMUN 2024! I am currently a sophomore at SM, and this is my second year doing MUN. When I am not going to conferences, researching my topic, or making maps. I enjoy drawing, going to Starbucks with my friends, and playing golf. I look forward to getting to know all of you and I look forward to hearing all your solutions!

We are so happy to have you all attending our conference, SOCOMUN XXXIII. For many of you, it will be your first conference. The following is what you can expect to happen in committee. Usually, the committee begins with the speaker's list opening. This is when the delegates are highly encouraged to raise their placard so they will be called upon to speak. The speech that you give should reflect your country's policy, discuss background briefly, and focus on discussing solutions that pertain to the whole issue. These solutions will be discussed with the other delegates in informal and formal caucuses. During informal caucus, try to discuss your policies with other delegates who have similar ideas. This will later end up forming your resolution group, where you form resolution document. These resolutions will be presented at the end of the conference and voted on by the committee. All of this information will be discussed and clarified before the conference begins so that everyone is prepared. If you have any questions or need any additional information, don't hesitate to reach out at [socomunfresh16@gmail.com](mailto:socomunfresh16@gmail.com).



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## Background

Human trafficking is a dire global issue that has gained substantial attention in recent decades. Human trafficking is defined as the exploitation of individuals, usually done through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of forced labor or sexual exploitation. In today's world, human trafficking is the modern-day equivalent of slavery. This exploitation can stem from poverty, lack of education, and gender inequality, all of which require legislation and other approaches to effectively tackle this issue. Additionally, human trafficking has proven to be an intricate challenge to overcome and nations around the world must work together to combat and end this issue.

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), there are approximately 50 million victims of human trafficking worldwide. Out of this number, about 22 million people found themselves in forced marriage and almost 28 million were in situations involving forced labor. Not only does trafficking occur in both developed and less developed nations, but it also affects all ages, genders, and economic backgrounds. Human trafficking also plays a role in global economics. It brings in an annual profit of about 150 billion dollars around the world. The process of human trafficking includes the recruitment, transportation, transfer harboring, or receipt of persons. The main forms of human trafficking include sexual exploitation, labor exploitation, or even organ removal. Victims are often vulnerable and get persuaded into trafficking with promises of work, education or similar opportunities. The most common form of human trafficking is sexual exploitation which accounts for 79% of cases. In human trafficking, many are often subject to situations in which it can feel as if there is no escape.

In 2010, the UN General Assembly adopted the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. This called for the implementation of the Palermo Protocol, which was adopted by the UN in 2000 and outlines a comprehensive definition of human trafficking and establishes a framework of how to eliminate this crime. Additionally, in 2010, the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons provides humanitarian, legal, and financial assistance to victims of human trafficking. However, this generally has a focus on women and children. Also, one of the most important ways that the United Nations has brought awareness to this goal is through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Today, there are an immense number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that bring light to the issue and work with governments to combat human trafficking. Some of these include Save the Children and Amnesty International, though there are several others.

The trafficking of humans is a serious crime and comes with underlying causes that call for the collaboration of nations worldwide to strengthen procedural motions, legislation, and prosecution. To combat this issue, a multifaceted approach is required to understand the victims of human trafficking legally, medically, psychologically, and to also provide understanding and support.



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## Potential Solutions

Delegates should produce their own original, innovative, and unique solutions that pertain to their own country's policies. Ensure that your solutions are well thought out, feasible, and demonstrate your knowledge of the topic. **Delegates are expected to know their country's stance on the topic and their solutions should reflect such knowledge.**

Potential solutions may include but are not limited to working with spreading awareness, strengthening legislation, combatting corruption, victim advocacy and encouraging economic development. **The following solutions are ideas and are not intended for copying as they lack key parts such as implementation.**

1. **Education and Prevention:** To combat human trafficking, it is important to work towards improving education towards this issue is one of the, if not the most important way to this issue. Education can include campaigning both online and in person through UN Committees and NGOs. Education initiatives can include children, the general public, or other groups.
2. **Legislation and Prosecution:** Another important factor of combatting human trafficking is legislation. Stricter laws help prioritize the prosecution of human traffickers. Though solutions suggesting legislation should be aligned with your country policy.
3. **Increasing Support and Protection:** Providing medical and mental health help for those who have suffered human trafficking is beneficial. Additionally, increasing the protections of victim's rights is useful, especially including assistance and compensation. Through offering shelter, medical care, counseling, and legal assistance, more victims will be able to make a life for themselves.
4. **Awareness:** Launching public awareness campaigns and educating people about the signs of human trafficking and ways to spot and address the issue can help ail human trafficking. Additionally, engagement with communities, businesses, and organizations can help raise awareness and promote anti-trafficking initiatives.

We would also like to highlight that funding should not be a primary concern, though it ties into feasibility and implementation. The 5<sup>th</sup> Committee of the UN, UN members, and NGOs will finance solutions.



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## Questions to Consider

These questions are not required to be formally answered by delegates, however, they should be taken into consideration in your research, drafting speeches, caucuses, and resolutions. Through the use of these questions, the chairs hope to expand each delegate's knowledge on the topic and allow for a clearer understanding of the issue and how to go about creating viable solutions.

1. What are some of the current laws, policies, and international agreements in your country that address and prevent human trafficking? Are they effective?
2. How effective are the current laws and agreements in combatting human trafficking? What are common issues with them?
3. How can technology, data, and innovation be leveraged to enhance anti-trafficking efforts, from victim identification to disrupting criminal networks?
4. What partnership can your country (you) make to prevent human trafficking in the future?
5. What are some short, mid, and long-term ideas to combat this issue?
6. In what ways has human trafficking had an effect on your country?
7. Are there specific ways in which you plan on educating others on this issue?

## SDG #16 Targets

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels

**16.1** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

**16.2** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence against and torture of children

**16.3** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

**16.4** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime

**16.5** Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms

**16.6** Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels

**16.7** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels

**16.8** Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance

**16.9** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

**16.10** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

**16.A** Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime

**16.B** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

## MUN Impact

MUN impact is an international non-profit education venture that helps youth in 170 countries worldwide. Learn how you can get involved here. <https://munimpact.org/>



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