

# **NATIONAL STRATEGY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

## **for the period 2012 – 2016**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Trafficking in persons represents an infringement of human rights and an offence of human dignity and integrity, a threat on person's security and on social and moral values. This type of crime affects the person directly through the impact on the fundamental rights, individual freedom, and the society bears the negative influences generated by the enhancement of the corruption phenomenon, of the antisocial and violent actions, the creation of criminal mechanisms gaining substantial profits from this type of activity affecting the economic stability and the regional security. Although, trafficking in persons, as a criminal and social phenomenon, is on international agendas since 2000, remains a reality which requires a sustainable and continuous effort from the international organisations, of each state, but of the whole society. The awareness of the negative effects, of the destroying impact of this phenomenon on children, youth, women and vulnerable social categories becomes a fundamental request of the institutional actions in the modern law state. Dimensions less visible and accepted in the last years become realities in the context of globalization, of freedom of movement, of elimination of internal borders, of liberalization of labour markets, of new settlements in the field of organ transplant, of legalization of sexual-commercial activities in certain states. The increase of the demand of sexual services, of cheap labour force, the desire for profit with minimum investments represent factors influencing directly the enhancement of the activity of criminal networks in trafficking in persons. The economic and social situations in the last years and the economic crisis, affecting the European States, have determined an increase of vulnerability to traffic for certain social groups.

The years 2009 and 2010 have been characterised on the European level, by an extremely intense activity of decision makers, by initiatives to update the legal framework, by organizing conferences with high impact at the level of the ministry. An important objective of these conferences was to offer the possibility to approach new challenges more and more important for the European Union in the field of prevention, protection of victims of trafficking in persons and the prosecution of the traffickers. More than that, another objective was to provide concrete and real data to the work structures of the European Union Council to elaborate an action document in the field of enhancing the external dimension of European Union as a reaction against trafficking in persons. The institutional reaction must take into consideration a series of aspects of trafficking in persons, namely: as an illegal economic activity, the traffic representing one the main financial resources for organized crime; as a major infringement of human fundamental rights, representing an offence to the human dignity Romania can not overpass; as an illegal cross-border activity, representing an element threatening the security. In the same time, the institutional reaction represents an important cooperation area within the European Union and in partnership with states, regions and third international organisations.

Thus, decision makers in the European Union have launched an appeal to the international community, including the institutions at the regional and national level, nongovernmental and international organizations, and other organization of the civil society, as well as to the European Union institutions and agencies, both to counter the challenges of cross-border criminality and to offer a clear and comprehensive reaction in the direction of coherent and clear multidisciplinary politics, with the involvement of all stakeholders in the countries of origin, transit and destination. This kind of reaction must be in accordance with human rights standards, paying a special attention to the traffic in women and children, pursuant to relevant international instruments in the field.

This strategy was elaborated at the initiative of the National Agency against Trafficking in Persons as the implementation period for the National Strategy against Trafficking in Persons for the period 2006 – 2010 was finalized.

Public institutions competent in the field of trafficking in persons and nongovernmental organizations performing prevention and victims' assistance activities have been involved in the elaboration of the National Strategy. The organized work meetings aimed mainly at the *identification of the problems* occurred in performing the activities characteristic for the action field against trafficking in persons and the draft of the *general objectives* of the Strategies.

The institutions taking part in the elaboration of the strategy were:

Ministry of Administration and Interior (National Agency against Trafficking in Persons, General Inspectorate of Romanian Police – Directorate for Countering Organized Crime, General Inspectorate of Romanian Border Police, Romanian Immigration Office, Public Politics Unit), Public Ministry (Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism), Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection, (Labour Inspection, General Directorate for Child Protection, General Directorate for Protecting Persons with Disabilities, National Agency for Employment), Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sport (General Directorate for Education and Lifelong Learning) and Ministry of Health (Authority for Public Health, National Agency for Transplant).

This document was elaborated and finalized on the basis of the relevant contribution of the following non-governmental organizations: Organization Save the Children – Romania, ADPARE – Association for Developing Alternative Practices for Reintegration and Education, Caritas Association – Bucharest, AIDROM – Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania, Romanian Centre for Disappeared and Sexually Exploited Children – FOCUS, Terres des Hommes Foundation, Ratiu Centre for Democracy, International Organization for Migration – Romanian Mission.

The period for the implementation of the measures in this strategy is 2012 – 2016.

## **II. GENERAL RELEVANT INFORMATION**

The crime of trafficking in persons continues to be one of the most profitable crimes for offenders, but harmful for victims and the entire society. The nature of exploitation activities dehumanizes the victims, subjecting them to inhuman treatments sometimes with irreversible effects on their personality and human development, especially as regards children.

The observance of this phenomenon tendencies allow the outline of future activities for countering and prevention trafficking in persons.

The social reality generated by the existence and implication of trafficking in persons phenomenon led to the need to create and develop a centralized national system to collect the data in this phenomenon (SIMEV<sup>1</sup>). SIMEV stores and processes data obtained through the implementation of the National victim identification and referral mechanism, created for the identification and referral of the victims and potential victims. National victim identification and referral mechanism represents the tool offered to public institutions and non-governmental organization to refer to the victims' or potential victims' referral they get in contact with.

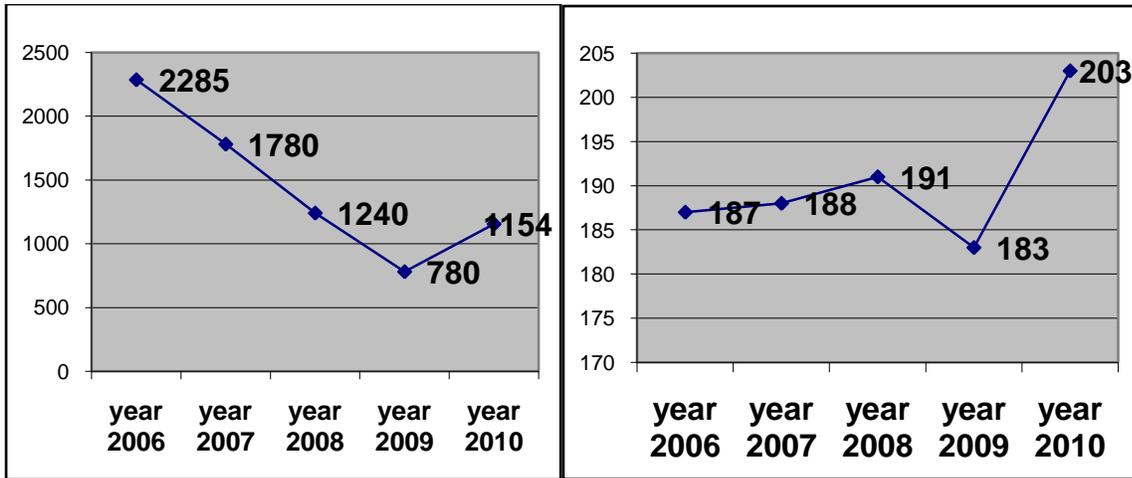
In the period 2006 – 2010, the annual incidence of identified victims of trafficking in persons experienced a decreasing trend for the first years on analysis, so that starting 2010 to follow an increasing trend.

Social reaction to this crime occurred both in preventing this crime and the accomplishment of justice and reintegration and adequate assistance of victims.

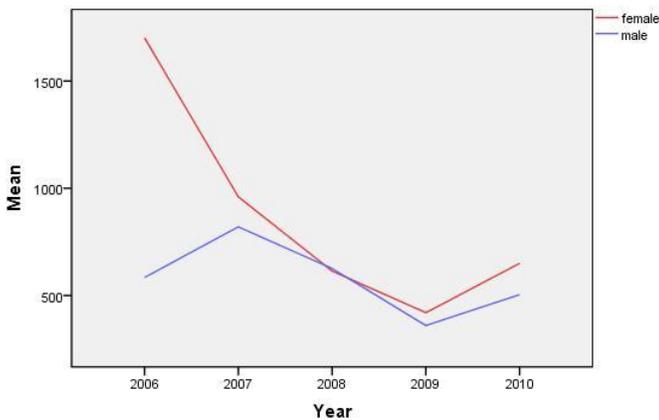
Below there is the situation of identified victims per year (on the left side) and the situation of convictions in the same period (on the right side):

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<sup>1</sup> Integrated System for Victims of Trafficking in Persons Monitorization and Evaluation, from now on called SIMEV.

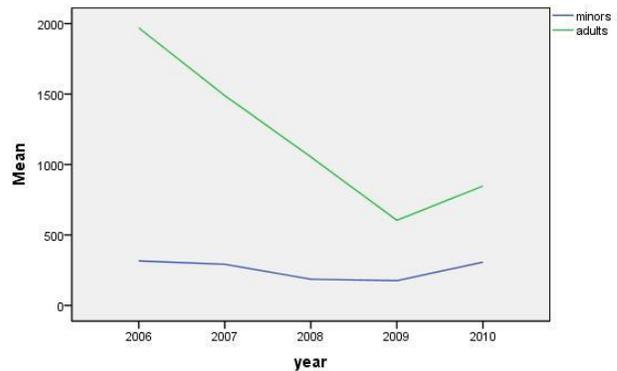


Thus, the incidence of victims identified in 2010 did not register an increase compared to the one in 2006; the number of persons convicted for the crime of trafficking in persons exceeded 200 persons in 2010. To an annual average of 1448 identified victims, the immediate response of justice was an average of 190 convicted traffickers and hundreds of persons sent to trial every year.

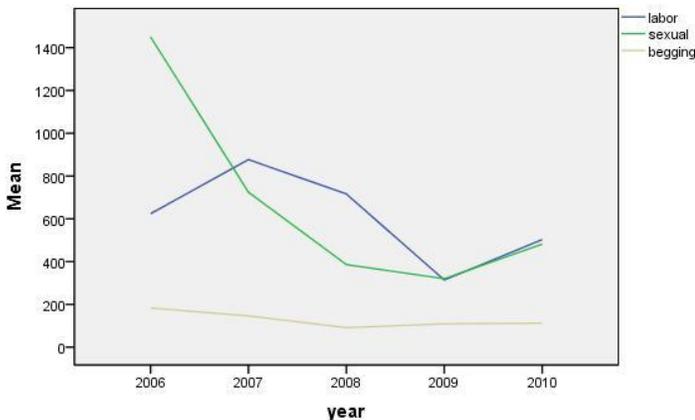


For all the years of analysis, the category of female persons was constantly more numerous among identified victims. The graphic shows exactly the quantitative differences between female and male victims.

Although, most of the victims trafficked in this periods were adults, a special attention must be paid to minors, taking into consideration their vulnerable position and addressing with programmes according to their age and level of maturity.



The main methods for victims' exploitation were forced prostitution, forced labour or accomplishing services with the infringement of legal norms on labour, salary, health and security, as well as forced begging, all associated with numerous physical, emotional or any other type of abuse. Other exploitation methods



have been identified among victims, but these can not be considered a tendency. As the new technological means expand more and more, the national and transnational bodies draw attention on the disguised dangers of Internet, especially for children. Although, at the present moment, the exploitation via Internet does not represent a major risk, measures to trace the possible victims and to prevent these deeds among groups in risk situation must be identified.

The appropriate measurement of trafficking in persons matter must not focus only on the victim dimension, but on the strategic monitoring of traffic flows, of organized crime networks, as well as on the analysis with specific indicators of justice response.

In accordance with the data registered by SIMEV, most of identified victims are trafficked outside the Romanian borders. For example, out of the total number of 1154 victims identified in 2010, 305 victims were trafficked internally, the difference of 849 victims representing the externally trafficked persons. The top 5 destination countries for external traffic, in order of amplitude, were: Spain (234 victims), Italy (206 victims), Check Republic (87 victims), Cyprus (78 victims), France (68 victims). Nevertheless, the need to consolidate the internal dimension against trafficking in persons must be a constant one; the internal traffic must be seen as a “training stage” of victims for subsequent exploitation in external traffic.

The accelerated social change causes system failures which can favour the appearance of any kind of crimes, but also changes of vulnerable groups’ structure.

According to Enrico Ferri theory called „supersaturation law”, any abnormal social phenomenon causes an abrupt increase of criminality. Thus, in the context of global economic crisis, arrived in Romania since the end of the year 2008 - beginning of the year 2009, a general change of social environment - a social disequilibrium - has been noticed, characterized by the intensification of criminal activities and by the increased victimization.

## Destination

In accordance with the statistics at the level of the National Agency against Trafficking in Persons, registered in SIMEV, Spain, Italy and Romania (internal traffic) had the highest score on a scale from 1 to 10 of the frequency (where 1 is the destination country with the least identified victims and 10 is the destination country with the most exploited and identified victims) in the annual top<sup>2</sup> 10 of the destination country for trafficking in persons. This high score can only emphasize the constant problem of trafficking in persons at these destinations. The states with the score around 5 (the cases of Check Republic and Cyprus) are characterised by an average spread of the trafficking in persons with Romanian citizens, but which appeared although the period 2006-2010.

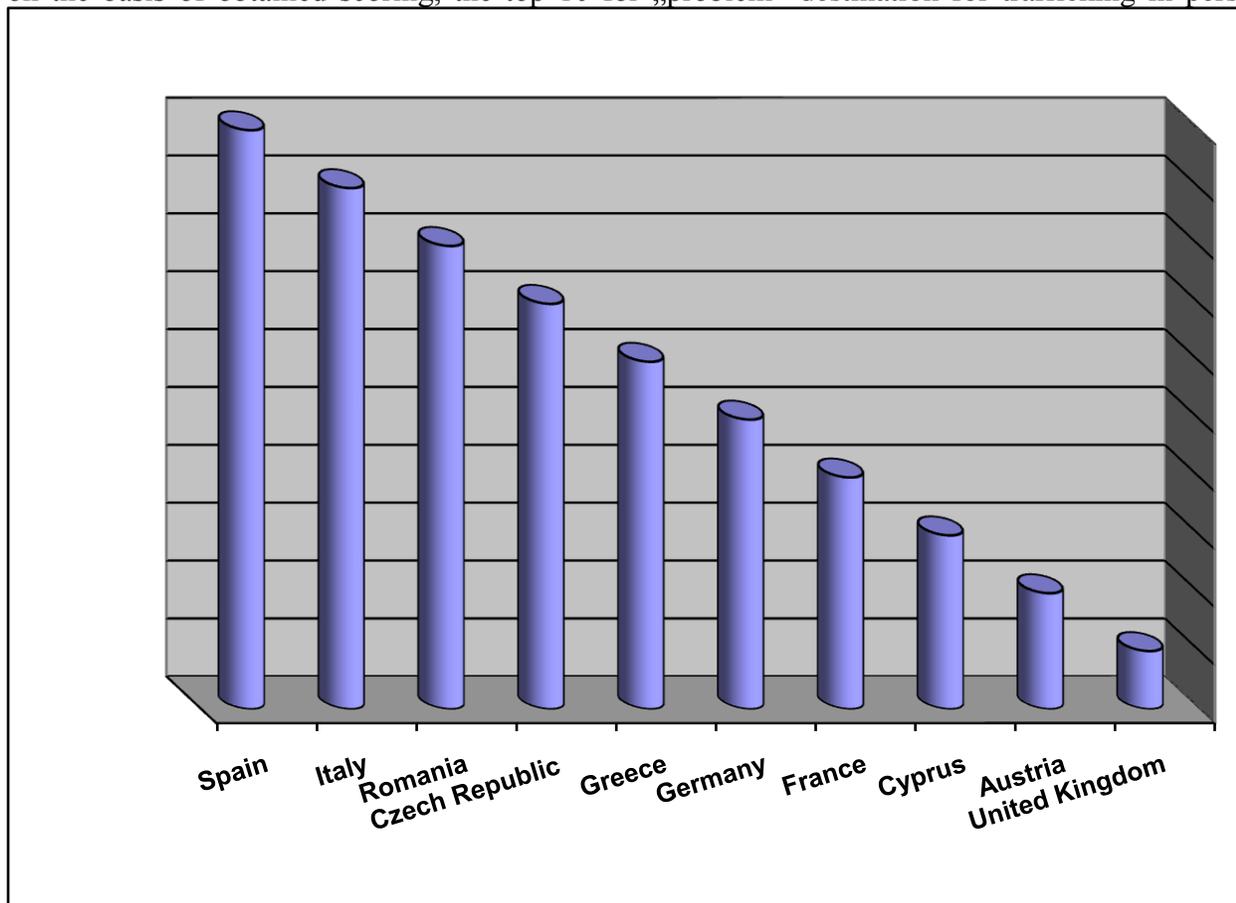
The states which did not register annual cases or a wide spread of this phenomenon obtained lower scores.

	Score 2010	Score 2009	Score 2008	Score 2007	Score 2006	Average
Spain	9	10	10	9	10	9.6
Italy	8	9	9	10	9	9
Romania	10	8	8	7	8	8.2
Czech Republic	7	7	6	8	1	5.8
Cyprus	6	2	4	0	0	2.4
Germany	4	4	5	5	7	5
Greece	3	6	7	6	5	5.4
France	5	0	0	4	6	3
Austria	2	1	2	2	4	2.2

<sup>2</sup> The top was made on the basis of the first 10 destination countries for trafficking in persons, annually. There, where the last threshold, more states have registered the same values, all cases have been taken into consideration.

United Kingdom	0	3	3	0	0	1.2
Hungary	1	0	0	1	0	0.4
Netherlands	1	0	0	3	0	0.8
Ireland	1	0	1	0	0	0.4
Portugal	0	0	0	0	2	0.4
Finland	0	5	0	0	0	1
Turkey	0	0	0	0	3	0.6

The scoring method from 1 to 10 - where 1 was given to the state/ states which were on the 10th place in the top of annual destination and 10 was given to the state which was on the 1st place as external destination – allows the clear emphasis of main destination states, the comparison and the multiannual ranking depending on the obtained score. The destinations top was made ranking the states depending on the number of victims exploited within their territory. Thus, for the 5 years of analysis, on the basis of obtained scoring, the top 10 for „problem” destination for trafficking in persons is:



### III. PRIORITIES, POLITICS AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

#### Legal changes

The accession of Romania to the European Union involved the harmonization of national legislation with the European Union one, the adjustment of structures and mechanisms of national public administration according to the ones belonging to the European Union and the development of administrative and legal capacity to implement the European acquis.

Romania, beside other states and especially Member States of European Union, has adopted gradually an assembly of legal measures for the continuous building and strengthening of national mechanism, in the context of international cooperation improvement for the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons. Our country has registered important achievements in the fight against trafficking in persons, having, at the present moment, national regulations according to the European and international standards. Also, it has adopted and implemented the National victim identification and referral mechanism, it has focused prevention activities and campaigns on the vulnerable target groups, according to the results of national evaluation on this phenomenon, and last but not least, it has dismantled traffickers' networks, send them to trial and convicted them, mostly to custodial sentences.

## **Reference normative documents**

A. One of the main objectives of Government Programme 2012, provided in the Annex 2 to the Parliament Decision no. 15/ 2012 for Government grant trust, at the Chapter 6 "Administration and interior" in the component "order and public safety" is: *to counter corruption, transnational organized crime and serious forms of economic and financial crime*, given the situation when the organized crime, trafficking in persons, trafficking in drugs, smuggling continue to represent problems for the internal security of Romania. Due to these reasons, the proposal is for the public institutions in the field of public order and safety to act firmly both to counter the challenges of criminality and to have a clear and comprehensive reaction through coherent and coordinated multidisciplinary politics, involving all stakeholders.

In the same time, the forms of organized crime that prejudice the image of Romania abroad must be countered through specific means of police cooperation.

One of action direction for the achievement of this objective is "*Improvement of international police cooperation for countering trafficking in persons and trafficking in drugs - crimes of organized crime*".

B. Main international legal instruments on trafficking in persons, ratified by Romania, or related to trafficking in persons and human rights, as well as relevant European documents are:

1. United Nations Convention against cross-border organized crime, adopted in New York, on 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2000, ratified by the Law no. 565/ 2002. Romania signed, on 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2000, at Palermo, the United Nations Convention against organized cross-border organized crime, as well as the two additional protocols, adopted in New York, on 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2000: protocol on the prevention, repression and punishment of trafficking in persons, especially of woman and children, as well as the protocol against smuggling with migrants on land, air and sea;
2. United Nations Convention regarding the fight against trafficking in human beings, adopted on 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2005, opened for signature and signed by Romania, in Warsaw on 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2005, ratified by the Law no. 300/2006;
3. European Union Plan on best practices, standards and procedures for countering and prevention of trafficking in persons;
4. Stockholm Programme, adopted at Brussels, on 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2009;
5. Directive 2011/36/EU of European Parliament and Council of 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2011 on the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons and the protection of its victims, as well as replacing the Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA of Council.

C. International instruments which refer explicitly to children's rights, trafficking in children and the fight against any form of children exploitation:

1. Convention on children's rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, of 20<sup>th</sup> of November 1989, ratified by Romania through the Law 18/ 1990, republished;
2. International Labour Organization Convention no. 182/ 199 on the prohibition of worst forms of children labour and the immediate action for their elimination, adopted at the 87<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference of International Labour Organization at Geneva on 17<sup>th</sup> of June 1999, ratified through the Law 203/2000;
3. Optional Protocol on the Convention regarding the children's rights, selling children, children prostitution and children pornography, signed at New York, on 6<sup>th</sup> of September, ratified through the Law 470/ 2001.
4. European Union Convention on children's protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, adopted at Lanzarote on 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2007 and signed by Romania at Lanzarote on 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2007, ratified through the Law 252/ 2010.

D. Main national normative documents in the field of trafficking in persons:

1. Law no. 678/2001 on the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons, with the subsequent changes and completions;
2. Law no. 248/2005 on the regime free movement of Romania citizens to travel abroad, with the subsequent changes and completions;
3. Romanian Criminal Code;
4. Government Decision no. 299/2003 for the approval of Regulation to apply the provisions of Law 678/2001 on the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons;
5. Government Decision no. 1238/2007 for the approval of National Standards specific for specialized services to assist and protect the victims of trafficking in persons;
6. Order of ministry of interior and administrative reform, ministry of labour, family and equal chances, ministry of education, research and youth, ministry of public health, of president of National Authority for the Child's rights protection, of the general prosecutor of Prosecutor's Office within the High Court of Cassation and Justice and of ministry of justice no. 335/2881/1990/1072/266/A 6880/409/C/2353/C for the approval of the National identification and referral mechanism.

E. National normative documents regarding trafficking in children and the fight against any form of children's exploitation:

1. Law no. 272/2004 on the protection and promotion of children's rights, with subsequent changes;
2. Government Decision no. 1443/2004 on the methodology to repatriate unaccompanied Romanian minors and to assure special protection measures in their favour;
3. Government Decision no. 617/2004 on the establishment and organization of the national Steering committee for the prevention and countering children's' exploitation for labour;
4. Government Decision no. 76/2008 for the amendment and completion of Government Decision no. 617/2004 on the establishment and organization of the national Steering committee for the prevention and countering children's' exploitation for labour;
5. Government Decision no. 860/2008 on the approval of the national Strategy in the field of protection and promotion of children's right 2008 – 2013 and of the operational Plan for the implementation of the national Strategy in the field of protection and promotion of children's right 2008 – 2013;
6. Government Decision no. 867/2009 on the ban of dangerous labours for children;

7. Government Decision no. 49/2011 for the approval of the framework Methodology for the prevention and intervention in multidisciplinary teams and in networks in situations of violence against children and domestic violence and of the Methodology for multidisciplinary and interinstitutional intervention regarding exploited children and in risks situation for labour exploitation, children victims of trafficking in persons, as well as migrant Romanian children victims of any forms of violence on the territory of other states;
8. Order of the state secretary of the National Authority for Child Protection and Adoption and of the ministry of administration and interior no. 123/429/2004 for the approval of the Regulation for organization and functioning of the subgroup for the coordination and evaluation of the prevention and countering of trafficking in children activities;
9. Order of the state secretary of the National Authority for Child Protection and Adoption and of the ministry of administration and interior no. 295/2005 for the organization and functioning of technical secretariat within the subgroup for the coordination and evaluation of the prevention and countering of trafficking in children activity, with subsequent changes;
10. Order of the state secretary of the National Authority for Child Protection and Adoption and of the ministry of administration and interior no. 294/2005 on the organization and functioning of the unit specialized in child labour, with the subsequent changes and completions.

F. Other national legal instruments on trafficking in persons:

1. Law no. 156/2000 on the protection of Romanian citizens who work abroad, republished;
2. Law no. 416/2001 on the minimum guaranteed income, with the subsequent changes and completions;
3. Law no. 116/2002 on the prevention and countering of social exclusion;
4. Law no. 682/2002 on the witness protection;
5. Law no. 39/2003 on the prevention and countering of organized crime, with the subsequent changes and completions;
6. Law no. 211/2004 on certain protection measures for the victims of crimes, with the subsequent changes and completions;
7. Law no. 302/2004 on international judicial cooperation in criminal matters, republished;
8. Law no. 508/2004 on the establishment, organization and functioning within the Public Ministry of the Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism, with the subsequent changes and completions;
9. Law no. 95/ 2006 on the reform in the field of health, with the subsequent changes and completions;
10. Law no. 292/2011 on social assistance;
11. Government Emergency Ordinance no. 194/2002 on the status of aliens in Romania, republished.

#### **IV. DEFINITION OF THE PROBLEM**

The experience with the implementation of the National Strategy against trafficking in persons for the period 2006 – 2010, the analysis of the annual reports on the situation of the trafficking in persons and the anti-traffic activities, as well as of the legal framework, represented the basis for the definition of the problem in the field, namely *the maintenance at a high level of the number of victims of trafficking in persons and a limited reaction capacity against trafficking at the national level.*

A series of subsequent problems have been identified, in relation to this central problem:

- **An incomplete and mistaken perception on the trafficking in persons phenomenon at the level of the population and in media.**

Media interest focuses selectively on human trafficking phenomenon, retaining those facts and data characteristics for hot news, aspect which causes the promotion of an incomplete image and perpetuating stereotypes regarding profile victim of human trafficking and exploitation methods. The inaccurate and ambiguous information on certain aspects of trafficking in person's phenomenon, in the context of current biases and social stereotypes, contributed to a misleading communication of anti-traffic messages and the maintenance at a low level of public awareness and of the reactions to the traffic problem.

- **Increased vulnerability to traffic, caused by the spreading and deepening of financial difficulties for certain categories of persons, in the wider context of socio-economic evolution at the global and national level.**

Low standards of living and lack of real opportunities to overcome difficult situations, on a long term, generate feelings of discouragement and distrust in chances of personal wealth in the country and encourage migration. A particular vulnerable category is represented by children, especially children in care of families with major socio-economic difficulties, respectively, families with many children, with very low income, a reduced level of education and with extreme difficulties for employment.

- **Reduced number and certain disparities in the organization and functioning of specialized services for the assistance of victims of trafficking in persons.**

The current territorial organization of residence centres for adult victims of trafficking in persons is inefficient in covering their individual needs. The residence of persons in distress, one eligibility criteria for the access to social services provided by the local authorities, represents an element which hinders the protection and assistance of victims of trafficking in persons in specialized centres.

Also, the probation offices competent in providing psychological counselling and other forms of assistance for victims of trafficking in persons can not have a prompt and appropriate answer to the needs of this category of persons. This is due to the fact that the number of victims addressing to probation offices is low, and it is known that they work with criminals and on the other side not all the probation offices have personnel trained in the field of psychology and the ones with this type of training, do not have the necessary accreditation to give psychological training. Consequently, in this moment, probation offices, although legally competent to offer support to the victims of trafficking in persons, most of the times guide the victims to other institutions and organization which can answer to the specific needs of victims of trafficking in persons.

The overlaps, disparities and lacks in the current organization and functioning of some specialized services for the protection and assistance of children, victims of trafficking in minors, as well as the inefficient drafting of work methodologies used within the cooperation between institutions in the field of trafficking in minors. The transit centres for the protection of the repatriated children and/ or victims of trafficking do not answer completely to their initial mission, almost half of them are now closed or they are preserved and the existing ones operate below capacity.

- **Reduced capacity to implement the National Identification and Referral Mechanism.**

The observance of victims' repatriation and referral for assistance activities, especially the specific of stages and stakeholders showed the fact that, at the level of the institutions responsible for the implementation of the National Identification and Referral Mechanism, the provisions of this documents are not well known or there are certain unclear aspects of the attributions to identify and refer the victims of trafficking in persons. The lack of standards for the risk assessment of victims of trafficking in persons and of some standards for their assisted repatriation causes delays in the identification of the most appropriate measures and assistance. In particular, the detailed additional procedures on the identification and referral of children – victims of trafficking in minors – as stages in the case management for children – victims of trafficking in minors – provided in the multidisciplinary and interinstitutional intervention Methodology for exploited children or in risk situation for labour exploitation, the children, victims of trafficking in persons, as well as Romanian migrant children, victims of other forms of violence on the territory of other states, approved by the Government Decision no. 49/ 2011, are still not well known by the institutions responsible for their implementation.

▪ **Limited capacity, at the level of law enforcement authorities, to evaluate, anticipate and respond to the evolution of the types of criminal actions in the field of traffic.**

This problem is determined by the limited human, financial and logistic resources which favoured the usage of same practices in reaction to the problem of traffic based, to a large extent, on the investigators' capacity to solve the cases. Innovation and initiative in this field must be stimulated both by the usage, at a large scale, of modern instruments for information management, as well as by a cross-border approach of the judicial actions.

▪ **Inconsistency in the accuracy and completeness of data collected and disseminated to the institutions responsible for implementing policies in the field of trafficking in persons.**

Identification and comprehensiveness of the identification of trafficking in persons fluctuates affecting negatively the quality of national/ country reports and the perception of institutional capacity to react to the current situation.

▪ **Lack of reports or incomplete / late reports on the performed activities and obtains results of the institutions competent in the field.**

Partial taking or not taking responsibility for collecting data of interest by institutions in the fields of action precludes the rate of aggregation of information and assessment of the situation of human trafficking in Romania, resulting in a reduced ability to respond in time to the reporting requirements in this field, thus affecting their quality.

▪ **The absence of a neutral observer of the implications and results of public policies in the field of traffic, with the necessary authority and independence, able to make the evaluation and recommendations on the efficiency and sustainability of the national anti-traffic process.**

The difference of opinion between the institution and the civil society as regards the results and the action directions of the effort made for the prevention and countering of traffic, as well as for victims' assistance are frequently lacking in positive – constructive effects in the absence of a fair arbitration which might be offered by the Institution of the National Rapporteur. The arbitrage offered by this will effect on the coordination and the synergy of the two social segments for the countering activities to reach the desired efficiency level.

- **Insufficient funds for the diversification and increase of number of activities to reduce the phenomenon and to assist the victims of trafficking in persons.**

For the proper functioning of the public – private partnership, it is necessary to assure the sustainability of reintegration programmes which require financial support which can be gained by means of international projects and programmes of national interest.

- **Increased prevalence of Romanian victims exploited on the territory of other states.**

The situation described above imposes both the intensification of international cooperation efforts from all the institutions with competences in the fight against trafficking in persons, especially with the institutions in destination countries to find the most efficient answers in the prevention of this phenomenon, to dismantle traffickers' networks and to protect the victims' rights, as well to improve the economic-financial improvement of the vulnerable population representing one of the main factors which favour the victimization of Romanian citizens abroad.

## **V. OBJECTIVES OF STRATEGY**

**This strategy has the purpose to reduce the impact and dimensions of trafficking in persons at the national level, setting priorities and making efficient the activities in the fight against this phenomenon.**

### **GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

1. To stimulate the prevention activities and the involvement of civil society in their performance
2. To improve the quality of protection and assistance for the victims of trafficking in persons in the view of their social reintegration.
3. To improve the institutional capacity to investigate crimes of trafficking in persons, mostly cases of trafficking in minors, as well as the capacity of criminal prosecution bodies to track the criminal profit
4. To enhance the capacity to collect and analyse data on trafficking in persons
5. To improve and extend the interinstitutional and international cooperation process to support the implementation of the national strategy against trafficking in persons.

## **VI. MAIN PRINCIPLES**

The activities on the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons and the assistance given to the victims, performed in accordance with the objectives of this National Strategy, are subjected to the following principles, the observance of which is fundamental and compulsory:

1. *The observance of human fundamental rights and freedom* – all the activities performed by the state institutions, nongovernmental organization and other structures of civil society for the prevention and countering trafficking in persons and the necessary assistance given to the victims is done in compliance with the provisions of the international conventions and treaties on the human fundamental rights and freedom, Romania belongs to.
2. *Principle of observance and promotion with priority of superior interest of children* - the superior interest of children shall prevail in all the actions and decisions regarding children,

- taken by the public authorities and bodies involved in accomplishing the objectives of this national Strategy;
3. *Legality principle* – the activities to accomplish the strategic objectives are performed on the basis of the law and in accordance with it;
  4. *Prevention principle* – the entire activity performed for the accomplishment of strategic objectives must assure the prevention of trafficking in persons, both through a good cooperation between the involved institutions and organization, as well as through a unitary coordination in the implementation of the national Strategy;
  5. *Complimentarily, transparency and social dialogue principle* – entails, on one side, the transparency of the decision process, and on the other side, the consultation of the civil society members within this process. The implementation of the national Strategy shall be performed transparently, with the participation of the civil society, aside the governmental institutions for the accomplishment of the objectives;
  6. *Cooperation principle* – the institutions and organizations involved in the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons and in proving assistance for the victims shall cooperate, so that to assure a coherent, integrated conception on the matter and of the assumed or planned measures, an appropriate coordination of the efforts made and of actions performed;
  7. *Public – private partnership principle* – implies to involve the civil society in concrete activities to implement the measures to prevent trafficking in persons, to offer assistance services for victims, as well as to consult the civil society members within decision making process.
  8. *Responsibility principle* – implies the obligation of institutions responsible to carry out the activities additional to the objectives of national Strategy, as well as of partner institutions, to perform their tasks in the best way possible.
  9. *Confidentiality principle* – the activities shall be made public only as provided by law, so that they will not endanger the good performance and the result as well as the rights and freedoms of involved persons.
  10. *Adaptability principle* – implies that all anti-traffic actions shall be in accordance with the needs caused by the dynamic of the phenomenon, with the national and international normative documents.
  11. *Sustainability principle* – means the allocation of financial and human resources necessary for the achievement of strategic objectives.
  12. *Subsidiary principle* – implies that the decisions shall be taken as closer to the citizens and that the need to take new actions specific for the achievement of strategic objectives in the view of possibilities at the national, regional and local level shall be permanently checked.
  13. *Adequacy principle* – implies that none of the performed actions should overcome the level necessary for the achievement of the established objectives.

## **VII. ACTION DIRECTION, GENERAL OBJECTIVES AND SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

### **VII.1. PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

Public policies for the prevention of trafficking in persons must continue and new methods and approaches must be used for their implementation, having as starting points, on one side the action to centralize the prevention efforts made so far, both by public institutions and nongovernmental

organizations to avoid the overlaps and to increase the efficiency of the common action and, on the other side, a justification resulting from the researches in the field on target-groups and risk areas.

**General objective 1. To stimulate the prevention activities and the involvement of civil society in their performance**

**Specific objectives**

- 1.1. To increase the information and awareness of population on what trafficking in persons implies**
- 1.2. To reduce the risk factors leading to victimization**
- 1.3. To monitor the activity of economic agents in professional fields with great fluctuation of labour force (building, agriculture, wood exploitation etc.)**

**VII.2. VICTIMS' OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS PROTECTION, ASSISTANCE AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION**

In the field of protection and assistance a series of measures have been adopted which contributed to the improvement of organization and supply of assistance services for the victims of trafficking in persons, most significant being the approval of national standards specific for the specialized services for assistance and protection of victims of trafficking in persons and the National identification and referral mechanism, establishing specific procedures to refer the victims of trafficking in persons depending on the place and way the victims were identified and on the institutions and organization that identify the victim. Minors, victims of trafficking in persons, benefit from specific protection measures according to the regulations within the national system for protection and promotion of human rights.

The protection and assistance services are offered to victims of trafficking in persons, either in assistance and protection centres, established by the state, or in centres and shelters of nongovernmental, in protected dwellings, in daily centres, but event at their own domicile.

**General objective 2. To improve the quality of protection and assistance for the victims of trafficking in persons in the view of their social reintegration**

**Specific objectives**

- 2.1. To reconfigure the service system of protection and assistance for the victims of trafficking in persons**
- 2.2. To harmonize the provisions of national legislation in the field of assistance for victims of trafficking in persons with the ones of European Union**
- 2.3. To enhance the capacity of National Agency against Trafficking in Persons to monitor and asses, at the national level, the suppliers of protection and assistance for the victims of trafficking in persons**
- 2.4. To improve the capacity for early identification of victims and referral to the suppliers of specialized services**

- 2.5. To assure the protection and assistance for adult victims of trafficking in persons in the view of their social reintegration
- 2.6. To assure the protection and assistance for children - victims of trafficking in persons in the view of their social reintegration
- 2.7. To assure the sustainability of the coordination programme for the participation of victims of trafficking in persons during criminal trial
- 2.8. To improve the measures to support the access of victims of trafficking in persons to financial compensation

### **VII.3. COUNTERING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**

When countering trafficking in persons, a comprehensive approach of legal proceedings is necessary in the context of increased involvement of organized crime in this type of crime but as a consequence of the transnational character of this form of breaching the human rights. The adoption and continuous development of good investigation practices, coded in unitary standard procedures at the level of law enforcement institutions, completed by measures to improve the capacity to collect and analyse information from various sources, represents the premises for a coherent and efficient anti-traffic response to the dismantle of networks and discourage of criminal actions in this field.

Also, the profit made by the criminal networks must be taken into consideration when investigating the cases of trafficking in persons, including the ones with a cross-border component.

**General objective 3. To improve the institutional capacity to investigate crimes of trafficking in persons, mostly cases of trafficking in minors, as well as the capacity of criminal prosecution bodies to track the criminal profit**

Specific objectives

- 3.1. To develop the strategic analysis capacity regarding trafficking in persons at the level of the National Police
- 3.2. To develop the capacity of Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism to coordinate the activity of investigation and criminal prosecution of crimes of traffic
- 3.3. To harmonize the provisions of national legislation in the field of countering trafficking in persons with the ones of European Union
- 3.4. To intensify the usage of international legal cooperation tools in cases of trafficking in persons
- 3.5. To improve the cooperation between units for countering cyber-crime and for countering trafficking in persons to monitor the situations when the internet is used for juvenile pornography via IT systems and for recruitment to produce juvenile pornography via IT systems
- 3.6. To assure the continuity and sustainability of training programmes in the field of countering for experts in the law enforcement bodies
- 3.7. To follow the goods and profits obtained from crimes of trafficking in persons

## **VII.4. MONITORIZATION – EVALUATION – REPORTING**

The understanding of nature and dimensions of trafficking in persons lies at the basis of the development and the improvement of actions to prevent and counter the phenomenon, to elaborate and to implement public policies or assistance for the victims of trafficking in persons.

In order to provide, in real time, an overview on the phenomenon of trafficking in persons in Romania, it is necessary that the current mechanism of data collecting and processing should be improved both by using a set of common/ comparable indicators by all institutions and by exchanging data. The indicators shall be settled by competent structures, on the basis of internal dynamic of the phenomenon, as well as of the recommendations of the national rapporteurs in the member states of European Union.

### **General objective 4. To increase the capacity to collect and analyse data on trafficking in persons**

Specific objective

- 4.1. Joint usage of data collected by the competent institutions
- 4.2. To improve the quality of evaluation reports
- 4.3. To establish the institution of National Rapporteur

## **VII.5. INTERNATIONAL AND INTERINSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION**

A core element of a coherent and concerted response is represented by a strong partnership between public institutions, trade unions, employer's associations and nongovernmental organizations. Employers' associations, the basic pillar for the unitary development, coordination and evaluation of the activities to prevent and counter the phenomenon of trafficking in persons must reflect the concept of holistic approach of the phenomenon and the concentration of efforts in the fight against traffic.

The transnational character of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons involves, firstly, an efficient and continuous cooperation with the states on the origin-transit-destination routes.

The economic and demographic aspects of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons impose the extension of the dialogue in this field at the global level.

### **General objective 5. To improve and extend the interinstitutional and international cooperation process to support the implementation of the national strategy against trafficking in persons.**

**Specific objectives:**

- 5.1. To strengthen the cooperation between relevant institutions competent in the prevention and counter of trafficking in persons and in offering assistance and protection to the victims of trafficking in persons
- 5.2. To develop the channels for communication, functional and interinstitutional cooperation with the European Union states, with non-EU states and with International Organizations in the global context of fight against trafficking in persons
- 5.3. To make efficient and to support the activities to fight against trafficking in persons at the national and transnational, absorbing external non-reimbursable funds and using efficiently the internal resources

- 5.4. To enhance and diversify the cooperation with non-governmental organizations which perform activities to prevent trafficking in persons and to assist the victims
- 5.5. To develop strategic partnerships with the states in the region, both members of European Union and third countries, to promote and assume the status of regional leader in the field of prevention and countering trafficking in persons

## **VIII. RESULTS OF THE STRATEGY**

### **General objective 1. To stimulate the prevention activities and the involvement of civil society in their performance**

*Result: Increased variety of delivering anti-traffic messages and increased number of civil society representatives involved in their dissemination*

### **General objective 2. To improve the quality of protection and assistance for the victims of trafficking in persons for their social reintegration**

*Result: Increased quality and efficiency of victims' assistance process and services*

### **General objective 3. To improve the institutional capacity to investigate crimes of trafficking in persons, mostly cases of trafficking in minors, as well as the capacity of criminal prosecution bodies to track the criminal profit**

*Result: Reaching the desired efficiency level in the investigation, criminal prosecution and conviction of traffickers in persons and recovering the criminal profit*

### **General objective 4. To enhance the capacity to collect and analyse data on trafficking in persons**

*Result: A real/ scientific fundament for the evaluation and analysis reports, namely for the reports monitoring the stage of implementation of public policies in the field of trafficking in persons*

### **General objective 5. To improve and extend the interinstitutional and international cooperation process to support the implementation of the national strategy against trafficking in persons**

*Result: Functional cooperation mechanism, at the national and international level, between relevant institutions, competent in the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons and in offering assistance and protection for the victims of trafficking in persons*

## **IX. RESULTS OF ACTIONS**

### **General objective 1. To stimulate the prevention activities and the involvement of civil society in their performance**

*Results:*

- a) High level of knowledge of population/ risk groups/ professional categories, on the phenomenon of trafficking in person;
- b) Population's raised awareness on the causes and consequences of trafficking in persons;
- c) National, regional or local prevention campaigns addressed to implemented target groups;
- d) Raised level of self-protection capacity for the persons within vulnerable groups;
- e) High level of observance of legal norms on work, payment, health and security conditions.

**General objective 2. To improve the quality of protection and assistance for the victims of trafficking in persons for their social reintegration**

*Results:*

- a) *National network of protection and assistance services adapted to the victims' of trafficking in persons specific needs;*
- b) *Unitary and coherent legal framework;*
- c) *Observance of national standards on specialized assistance services for the victims of trafficking in persons;*
- d) *Efficient mechanism for victim's identification and referral;*
- e) *Reduced period of time spent by the victims in traffic situation;*
- f) *Recovery and development of victims' capacity to overcome the vulnerability/ difficulty situations;*
- g) *Increased level of physical and psychological security for the victims of trafficking in persons and good knowledge of their rights.*

**General objective 3. To improve the institutional capacity to investigate crimes of trafficking in persons, mostly cases of trafficking in minors, as well as the capacity of criminal prosecution bodies to track the criminal profit**

*Results:*

- a) *Improved capacity for strategic analysis on the trafficking in persons at the level of the Romanian Police;*
- b) *Maintenance of an increased rhythm to solve the files on the crime of trafficking in persons;*
- c) *Completion of procedures to implement the European provisions in the field in the national legislation;*
- d) *Active usage of international judiciary cooperation tools, mostly of joint investigation teams;*
- e) *Active usage of tools identifying the goods coming from crimes of trafficking in persons;*
- f) *Increased level of identified and recovered criminal profit;*
- g) *Outlining the tendencies to use internet as a tool in the recruitment and exploitation process;*
- h) *Training programmes, in the field of countering trafficking in persons, for experts in law enforcement units.*

**General objective 4. To enhance the capacity to collect and analyse data on trafficking in persons**

*Results:*

- a) *Unitary and comparable manner to measure and interpret data;*
- b) *Alignment to the European tendencies to collect and evaluate the phenomenon of trafficking in persons;*
- c) *Enhanced quality of assessment reports;*
- d) *High level of objectivity and independence in assessing national politics and their implementation manner.*

**General objective 5. To improve and extend the interinstitutional and international cooperation process to support the implementation of the national strategy against trafficking in persons**

*Results:*

- a) National, efficient, coherent and transparent anti-traffic response;*
- b) Active communication and cooperation channels, at the global level, in the field of prevention and countering trafficking in persons;*
- c) Increased quality of anti-traffic activities financed through non-reimbursable European funds.*

## **X. INDICATORS**

### **General objective 1**

*Indicators:*

- a) Number of implemented prevention campaigns;*
- b) Number of beneficiaries of prevention campaigns;*
- c) Number of articles/shows on trafficking in persons promoted by mass-media;*
- d) Number of vocational training programmes for persons in vulnerable groups.*

### **General objective 2**

*Indicators:*

- a) Number of units specialized in assisting victims of trafficking in persons established in the period of reference;*
- b) Elaborated standards on identification, risk assessment, assisted repatriation and referral of victims of trafficking in persons;*
- c) Number of victims socially reintegrated;*
- d) Number of victims cooperating in criminal trial;*
- e) Normative act on the amendment of national identification and referral mechanism of victims of trafficking in persons.*

### **General objective 3**

*Indicators:*

- a) Number of investigated cases of trafficking in persons;*
- b) Number of training programmes, in the field of countering of trafficking in persons, for the experts in the law enforcement units;*
- c) Number of investigated, convicted persons;*
- d) Number of sequesters/ seizures in cases of trafficking in persons, value of sequesters/ seized goods;*
- e) Number of requests to identify goods sent to the national debt recovery office;*
- f) Number of freezing/ seizure orders sent to the legal bodies in other states members of the European Union;*
- g) Number of joint investigation teams.*

### **General objective 4**

*Indicators:*

- a) Assessment reports on the phenomenon at the national level;*
- b) Draft of normative act on the organization and functioning of the National Rapporteur Institution.*

### **General objective 5**

*Indicators:*

- a) *Number of partnerships concluded to perform activities in the field of prevention and countering trafficking in persons;*
- b) *Number of international reunions;*
- c) *Number of approved and implemented projects financed through external non-reimbursable funds.*

## **XI. BUDGET**

The financial resources necessary for the implementation of the National Strategy come, mainly, from:

- a) Funds from the state budget, allotted to each minister and each institution competent to implement the National Strategy, programmed multi-annually;
- b) Funds to support national programmes for prevention and raising awareness on the effects of traffic and drug consumption, of trafficking in human beings, of cyber crimes and of juvenile pornography;
- c) Funds established at the level of the European Union for the management of trafficking in persons and performance of anti-traffic activities;
- d) External non-reimbursable funds from European or international donors;
- e) Donations or sponsorship offered/ accepted according to the law.

## **XII. LEGAL ASPECTS**

As far as the legislation is concerned, it is necessary to assess the normative acts related to the field of prevention and countering of trafficking in persons thus, the legal proceedings should aim to clarify the competences and responsibilities of each structure with tasks in the field, to link the subsequent fields, as well as to harmonize them with the corresponding European acts.

The legislative initiatives to amend and/or to complete some normative acts of high level (laws, government ordinances) and some of low level (Government decisions, as well as orders and instructions of ministry of administration and interior) shall be done according to the annual legislative plans, based on the new opportunities provided by the National Strategy.

## **XIII. MONITORING, ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES**

Organization framework necessary for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Strategy implies the collaboration between all the institutions involved and interested to apply, in an efficient manner, the action directions, general and specific objectives provided hereby.

In order to get information regarding the implementation stage of the National Strategy, as well as the results determined by reaching the objectives, the monitoring activities shall follow two directions:

- a) *Monitoring the implementation of the strategy:* This direction provides information on the implementation of actions within the strategy. For this purpose, each institution, performing activities for the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons, victims' assistance and reintegration, shall elaborate periodical monitoring reports presenting the way they fulfilled their tasks assumed in action plans for the implementation of the National Strategy. The monitoring reports shall be sent to the National Agency against Trafficking in Persons, twice a year or at request.

- b) *Monitoring the fulfilment of the objectives*: This direction provides information on the concrete results obtained in the activity of each institution with responsibilities in the field of fight against trafficking in persons. In this way, the results of monitoring shall consist in identifying the stage of fulfilling the objectives, the results of each activity shall be measured with the help of indicators settled and described in action plans for the implementation of the strategy, in comparing the obtained results with the estimated results, as well as in respecting the deadlines.

*The strategy will be evaluated* through reports on the situation of trafficking in persons and anti-traffic activities, drafted yearly by the National Agency against Trafficking in Persons. These will emphasize the progress registered in fulfilling the objectives of the National Strategy, and, depending on the case, the reasons for partial fulfilment or non-fulfilment, comprising the conclusions and recommendations on possible measures to improve the implementation process, namely, proposals to improve/ revise the objectives, proposals for solutions to remedy the ascertained situations, correction measures so that the evolution of indicators will be the expected one.

At the end of the implementation period of the National Strategy, a study post-implementation and impact will be carried out.

#### **XIV. RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTIONS**

At the national level, the following institutions perform activities for the prevention and countering of trafficking in persons, but for victims' assistance and reintegration:

##### **A. Ministry of Administration and Interior**, through specialized structures:

1. *National Agency against Trafficking in Persons* is the specialized structure in the prevention, monitoring and evaluation of the phenomenon of trafficking in persons in Romania. The role of the National Agency against Trafficking in Persons is to coordinate, evaluate and monitor the way the state institutions implement, at the national level, the policies in the field of trafficking in persons, as well as, in the field of protection and monitoring victims' assistance.
2. *General Inspectorate of Romanian Police* and the correspondent territorial units are structures within the Ministry of Administration and Interior, that perform inquiries and criminal investigations in the field of trafficking in persons, through the agency of the judiciary police officers appointed for this purpose, who carry out their activity within the Directorate for Countering Organized Crime, as well as, when necessary, take measures to protect the victims, through the agency of the officers within the National Office for Witness' Protection.
3. *General Inspectorate of Border Police* – with its subordinated units, is the structure within the Ministry of Administration and Interior that performs activities in the field of preventing the illegal exit from Romania of minor Romanian citizens - possible victims of trafficking in persons - being, in the same time, responsible to identify and refer the victims of trafficking in persons.
4. *Romanian Immigration Office* – is the specialized structure, with legal personality, under the subordination of the Ministry of Administration and Interior, competent to implement Romanian policies in the field of migration, asylum and foreigners' integration, as well as the relevant legislation in these fields. As regards the fight against trafficking in persons, the

Romanian Immigration Office has the following tasks: granting the right to stay or to tolerate the remaining on the national territory under conditions provided by the law, for foreigners, victims of trafficking in persons; the accommodation in the special centres of the Romanian Immigration Office, at the written request of the competent authorities; dissemination of data and information obtained during the current specific activity to the structures competent to fight against trafficking in persons.

5. *Prefecture* – public institution with legal personality, organized and functioning under the management of the prefect, Government representative at the local level who manages the decentralized public services of the ministries and other bodies of central public administration under the subordination of the Government at the level of the administrative – territorial units.

## **B. Ministry of Justice**, through its specialized structures:

1. *Probation Directorate*: is the unit which provides the fulfilment of tasks of the Ministry of Justice on the control, coordination and management of the activities of probation services organized near the courts of justice. The probation services, the total number is 42, are specialized bodies, without legal personality, under the authority of the Ministry of Justice. Their main tasks are the social reintegration of persons who committed crimes, but who are not detained, supervision of the execution of obligations the court of justice decided for them, as well as the assistance and counselling of the convicted persons, at their request. According to the provisions of the Law no. 211/ 2004, the probation services grant psychological counselling and other forms of assistance, for free, at request and for the victims of crimes provided by the Law no. 678/ 2001. Also, the counsellors within the probation services can participate in the victims' hearing within criminal trial, under the terms provided by the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. *International Law and Judicial Cooperation Directorate*: fulfils, through the Service for international judicial cooperation in criminal matters, the tasks of the Ministry of Justice related to trafficking in persons, provided by the Law no. 302/ 2004, in the following fields: extradition, European arrest warrant, transfer of procedures in criminal matters, acknowledgement and execution of decisions and transfer of convicted persons. **The Service for international judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters** provides the application of dispositions as regards granting of financial compensation for the victims of crimes committed deliberately and with violence in cross-border situations included in the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 113/ 2007 for the amendment and completion of the Law no. 211/ 2004 on certain measures for victims' of crimes protection, approved by the Law no. 45/ 2008;

3. *Office for crime prevention and cooperation with offices for debt recovery in European Union member states*: assures, including the cases for trafficking in persons, the exchange of data and information with similar offices in the European Union, for the pursuit and identification of products coming from crimes and other goods connected with crimes and which may represent the object of a blocking, sequestration or seizure order issued by a competent legal authority during criminal procedure.

4. *European Affairs Directorate*: is the directorate that in collaboration with the specialized directorates (Directorate for Elaboration of Normative Documents, Probation Directorate, International Law and Judicial Cooperation Directorate) elaborates mandates and any other necessary documents stating Romanian position regarding the negotiations of European tools in the field of trafficking in persons and additional matters (for example: victims' protection) for the reunion of work groups at the

level of experts within the Council of European Union, reunions of the Committee for Article 36 (CATS), Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER) or of the Councils of Justice and Home Affairs (JHA); represents the ministry, together with the specialized directorates, at the committees and work groups of European Commission and Council of European Union in the field of trafficking in persons; submits mandates and reports for these reunions to the Ministry of European Affairs and Ministry of External Affairs; monitors the transposition and implementation of European Union normative documents in the field, namely the Directive 2011/36/EU; makes the necessary proposals to harmonize the normative framework in the field of trafficking in persons (criminal sanctions, limits of punishments, aggravating and mitigating circumstances etc.) within the competence of the ministry and its subordinated and coordinated institutions, with the norms of the European Union law; participates in the endorsement of normative document drafts for the transposition of European Union normative documents in the field of trafficking in persons and additional fields into the national legislation, in collaboration with the specialized directorates in the ministry; participates in the reunions of expert groups at the national level in this field; collaborates with the National Agency against Trafficking in Persons, Ministry of Administration and Interior, Romanian Parliament and other institutions competent in the field of trafficking in persons.

**C. Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection**, as a ministry responsible for the synthesis and coordination of the implementation of Government strategies and policies in the field of labour, family and equal chances, social protection and protection and children's rights, has to provide, through its services and institutions, as well as through its territorial structures, the normative and institutional framework for the prevention of risk situations for the population in general, through measures aiming at social protection and security to diminish the risks for the vulnerable categories of population, through sectoral strategies and programmes, as well as for victims' assistance and social protection for the purpose of their recovery and social reintegration. These responsibilities are carried out only through the coordination and methodological guidance of the activities of the General Directorates for Social Assistance and Children's Protection, which are subordinated to the county councils and local councils of the districts of Bucharest city and to the Public Services for Social Assistance which are subordinated to local councils.

1. The functions and tasks of National Authority for Family Protection and Children's Rights were transferred to the Minister of Labour, Family and Social Protection and are exercised mainly by the *General Directorate for Children's Protection*. These responsibilities are connected to the global mission of the minister in the field of protection and promotion of children's rights at the national level and include the following specific tasks: to provide the normative framework for the organization and functioning of the services for the prevention and services specialized for the protection, rehabilitation and social reintegration of the children, victims of any form of violence, including trafficking in children, as well as the methodology for the intervention of institutions in the field of prevention and countering of violence against children; to perform the activities provided by the law for the repatriation, protection and monitoring post-repatriation of unaccompanied Romanian children on the territory of other states and of the children, victims of trafficking in minors.

2. *General Directorate for Protection of Persons with Disabilities* transferred from the National Authority for Persons with Disabilities the quality of regulatory authority in the field of protection for persons with disabilities and granting the endorsement to establish and function to the residential social services for persons with disabilities, victims of trafficking in persons established by the County General Directorates for Social Assistance and Children's Protection.

3. *National Agency for Employment*, through active measures encouraging employment, provides equal chances on labour market for all categories of persons looking for a job and especially for persons who have difficulties entering labour market (women, victims of trafficking in persons, persons with disabilities, Roma people etc.). For the persons with a high risk of being trafficked, National Agency for Employment develops information programmes on labour market and employees' rights, vocational programmes, as well as programmes to inform economic agents to give them priority.

4. *Labour inspection*, specialized body of central public administration, subordinated to the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection, has state authority competences in the field of labour relations, labour security and health and controls the unitary enforcement of legal dispositions, in its competence areas, in the units of the public, mixed, private sectors, as well as by other categories of employers. As regards labour relations, the control activity is divided in the following directions: the identification of employers who use undeclared labour; finding cases of non-compliance with other normative acts regulating labour relations; identification and elimination of any form of children's labour exploitation; the compliance with legal provisions regarding: employment of foreign citizens, protection of Romanian citizens working abroad, equality of chances for women and men.

**D. Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports** competent in the prevention of trafficking in persons among children and youth, as well as in providing victims' counselling and school reintegration.

**E. Ministry of External Affairs**, institution acting both in the field of internal and international cooperation, having, as partner, tasks in the prevention of trafficking in persons, to gives consular assistance for Romanian citizens, potential victims of trafficking in persons and has the obligation to draft and submit to interested institutions a list with the states having a high potential for trafficking in persons, but to provide the conditions for the victims' of trafficking in persons repatriation.

**F. Ministry of Health** organizes, within vulnerable communities, awareness campaigns regarding sexually transmitted diseases and participates in the performance of awareness campaigns regarding the causes, risks and consequences of trafficking in persons.

**G. Public Ministry**, through the Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism, is the structure with legal personality, specialized in countering organized crime and terrorism, competent to perform criminal pursuit for crimes provided by the Law no. 508/ 2004 and by the special laws, crimes which include trafficking in persons, as well as to conduct, supervise and control the criminal investigation documents drafted, at the prosecutor's order, by the judicial police bodies.

**H. Superior Council of Magistracy**, by reason of his role as surety of justice independence, provides statistics on the convictions pronounced by the courts of justice in the cases of trafficking in persons.