

LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

350-3 of January 7, 2012

On combating trafficking in human beings

*Adopted by the Chamber of Representatives on December 14, 2011,
approved by the Council of the Republic on December 20, 2011*

This Law defines organizational and legal foundations of combating trafficking in human beings and also establishes the system of measures for protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

SECTION 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Main terms used the this Law and their definitions

For the purposes of this Act the following terms and their definitions are applied:

victim of trafficking - a citizen of the Republic of Belarus, an alien or a stateless person (hereinafter, unless otherwise indicated, - a citizen), in respect of which trafficking in human beings or related offenses were committed;

organizations involved in trafficking in human beings - an organization that carries out activities aimed at trafficking in human beings, or committing related offenses, in respect of which the decision of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus on recognition of its involvement in trafficking in human beings was made and entered into force;

offenses related to trafficking in human beings - use of prostitution or creation of conditions for prostitution, involvement in prostitution or forcing continuation of prostitution, use of slave labor, kidnapping, illegal actions aimed at employment of citizens abroad, manufacture and distribution of pornographic materials or items of pornographic nature featuring a minor;

combating trafficking in human beings - the activities of government agencies and other organizations, including international and foreign organizations, aimed at prevention, detection, suppression of trafficking in human beings and related offences, protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking;

trafficking in human beings - buying and selling of a human being or other transactions with respect to it, as well recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons committed for the purpose of exploitation;

exploitation - illegal coercion of a person to work or provide services, if he/she cannot refuse to perform work or services due to circumstances beyond his/her control, including slavery or practices similar to slavery.

Article 2. Legislation of the Republic of Belarus on combating trafficking in human beings

1. Legislation of the Republic of Belarus on combating trafficking in human beings is based on the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus and consists of this Law, the acts of the President of the Republic of Belarus and other legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus, including international treaties of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter - international agreements).

2. If an international agreement establishes other rules than those contained in this Act, the rules of international agreement shall be applied.

Article 3. Goals of combating trafficking in human beings

The goals of combating trafficking in human beings are:
protection of the individual and the society from trafficking in human beings and related crimes;
prevention, detection, suppression of trafficking in human beings and related crimes;
protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

Article 4. Principles of combating trafficking in human beings

Combating trafficking in human beings is based on the following principles:

rule of law;
comprehensiveness of legal, social, economic, and informational measures aimed at combating trafficking in human beings;
protection of the rights of victims of trafficking;
non-discrimination of victims, ensuring their safety and right of

defense;

inevitability of prosecution of the perpetrators of trafficking in human beings or related offenses;

cooperation with the competent authorities of foreign states, international and foreign organizations and associations.

SECTION 2 FUNDAMENTALS OF COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Article 5. State regulation in the field of combating trafficking in human being

State regulation in the field of combating trafficking in human beings is administered by the President of the Republic of Belarus, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus and other state agencies within their authority.

Article 6. Authority of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the field of combating trafficking in human beings

In the sphere of combating trafficking in human beings the President of the Republic of Belarus:

defines the single state policy;

administers general management of public bodies;

approves state programs;

exercises other powers stipulated by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, this Law and other legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 7. Authority of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus in the field of combating trafficking in human beings

In the sphere of combating trafficking in human beings the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus:

ensures implementation of the single state policy;

ensures implementation of decisions of the President of the Republic of Belarus and compliance with the provisions of this Law;

develops state programs and submits those to the President of the Republic of Belarus for approval;

exercises other powers stipulated by the Constitution of the

Republic of Belarus, this Law and other laws and acts of the President of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 8. Authority of state bodies combating trafficking in human beings

1. State bodies responsible for combating trafficking in human beings are:

- 1.1. agencies of the interior of the Republic of Belarus;
- 1.2. public security agencies of the Republic of Belarus;
- 1.3. border guard agencies of the Republic of Belarus;
- 1.4. prosecuting authorities of the Republic of Belarus;
- 1.5. Investigative Committee of the Republic of Belarus.

2. In the sphere of combating trafficking in human beings the agencies of the interior of the Republic of Belarus, public security agencies of the Republic of Belarus and border guard agencies of the Republic of Belarus, within their jurisdiction, prevent, detect and suppress trafficking in human beings and related offences, take preventive measures aimed at identifying and addressing the causes and conditions conducive to human trafficking and related crimes, and perform other duties in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus.

3. The prosecuting authorities of the Republic of Belarus in case of detection of violations of legislation of the Republic of Belarus on combating trafficking in human beings, as well as in case of obtaining information from government agencies engaged in combating trafficking in human beings, other organizations and citizens on occurrence of such facts, shall issue an order, binding for corresponding government agencies and other organizations, public officials and other citizens, including individual entrepreneurs, to eliminate such facts, or, in accordance with this Law, shall suspend the activities of organizations and apply to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus for recognition of organizations as involved in trafficking in human beings, banning their activities in the territory of the Republic of Belarus and elimination of such organizations registered in the Republic of Belarus, or termination of such foreign missions or international organizations located in the territory of the Republic of Belarus, and shall also conduct criminal prosecution of perpetrators of trafficking in human beings or related offenses, and exercise other powers in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus.

4. Investigative Committee of the Republic of Belarus shall prosecute the perpetrators of trafficking in human beings or related offenses, in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 9. Authority of other state bodies and other organizations on the field trafficking in human beings

1. Public bodies that are not listed in Articles 7 and 8 of this Act, and other organizations shall take steps to identify and address the causes and conditions conducive to trafficking in human beings and related offences, take part in identifying the facts of occurrence of trafficking and related crimes as well as take measures to protect and rehabilitate victims of human trafficking, assist state agencies engaged in combating trafficking, within their competence provided for in this law and other legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus.

2. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Belarus, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus shall, within their competence, organize the work on social protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Belarus shall, within their competence:

3.1. maintain database on citizens on the basis of information provided by the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Belarus in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article 17 of this Act;

3.2. collect data on children - citizens of the Republic of Belarus, adopted by citizens of the Republic of Belarus permanently residing outside the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens and stateless persons, study their living conditions and notify the Ministry of Education every six months on it;

3.3. in collaboration with organizations that assist in the rehabilitation of victims of trafficking work on upholding the rights and lawful interests of citizens of the Republic of Belarus being such victims, facilitate repatriation to the State of their residence;

3.4. submit information to state authorities of the host country about the legislation of the Republic of Belarus on combating trafficking in human beings, disseminate information on activities to combat trafficking in human beings conducted in the Republic of Belarus, including on the rights of victims of trafficking;

3.5. immediately provide victims of trafficking who are citizens of

the Republic of Belarus and stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens and stateless persons who have been granted refugee status or asylum in the Republic of Belarus, with registration and issuance of documents for entry into the Republic of Belarus;

3.6. exercise other powers stipulated in this Law, other legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus, including international treaties.

Article 10. Activities of non-governmental organizations in the field of combating trafficking in human beings

1. For the purposes of preventing trafficking in human beings and related offences, protecting and assisting victims of trafficking the non-governmental organization working in this field have the right to:

1.1. interact with government agencies and other organizations referred to in Articles 8, 9 and 11 of this Act;

1.2. organize information campaigns on human trafficking, including on risks that the victims of trafficking may be subjected to;

1.3. create centers for the protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance;

1.4. carry out other activities provided by this Law and other legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus.

2. Non-governmental organization shall work to identify victims of trafficking, provide them with legal and other protection and assistance, as well as take measures to prevent trafficking in human beings and related crimes in accordance with their charters.

Article 11. Activities of international and foreign organization in the field of combating trafficking in human beings

For the purposes of preventing trafficking in human beings and related crimes, identifying victims of trafficking, providing protection and assistance to them, international and foreign organizations carrying out activities in the field of combating trafficking in human beings have the right to communicate with government agencies and other organizations listed in Articles 7-10 of this Act, to implement international technical assistance projects aimed at combating human trafficking, including through the establishment of centers to protect victims of trafficking and render assistance assist to them.

Article 12. Coordination of activities of state bodies and other

organizations in the field of combating trafficking in human beings

1. Coordination among state bodies engaged in combating trafficking in human beings shall be ensured through the coordination meetings on combating crime and corruption in the manner determined by the President of the Republic of Belarus.

2. Coordination between state bodies and other organizations referred to in Articles 9 and 10 of this Law in the sphere of combating trafficking in human beings, including international cooperation in this area shall be ensured by the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Belarus.

SECTION 3 PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND RELATED OFFENCES

Article 13. Measures to prevent trafficking in human beings and related offences

Measures to prevent trafficking in human beings and related offenses are:

licensing for activities implementation of which may create conditions for trafficking in human beings, and (or) their exploitation;

establishing requirements for the operation of model agencies and persons engaged in tourism activities;

regulation of the issues of prevention of trafficking and related crimes in the sphere of information and education;

other measures stipulated by legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 14. Licensing in the field of preventing trafficking in human beings and related offences

For the purposes of preventing trafficking in human beings and related offenses licensing is established for activities associated with employment outside the Republic of Belarus of citizens of the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens and stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Belarus, with collection and dissemination, including through the global Internet computer network, of information about individuals for the purpose of dating (the activities of marriage agencies).

Article 15. Specific issues of regulating activities of modeling agencies and persons engaged in tourism activities

1. Competitive selection of candidates (except for organizations holding competitive selection for vacant positions within these organizations) to participate in promotional projects or subsequent employment (casting) shall be conducted by:

1.1. bodies for labor, employment and social protection;

1.2. mass media, public cultural institutions – for the purposes of implementing their own projects on the territory of the Republic of Belarus, modeling agencies - for the same purpose, as well as for employment in the Republic of Belarus of citizens of the Republic of Belarus;

1.3. legal entities and individual entrepreneurs possessing special permission (license) for activities related to employment outside the Republic of Belarus of citizens of the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens and stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Belarus.

2. Competitive selection of candidates for promotional projects or their subsequent employment (casting) by other persons not referred to in paragraph 1 of this article is prohibited.

3. Legal entities and individual entrepreneurs engaged in tourism activities, are obliged to submit to the citizenship and migration units of chief department of interior of the Minsk City Executive Committee or to the departments of interior of the regional executive committees of the place of their registration information on the citizens of the Republic of Belarus who were member of an organized tour group and did not return to the Republic of Belarus upon tour completion within five working days from the date of the return of such group.

Article 16. Measures to prevent trafficking in human beings and related offences in the information sphere

1. Promotion of trafficking in human beings and related crimes, as well as advertising of services related to trafficking in human beings is prohibited.

2. Educational institutions and points of collective access to the Internet are prohibited to provide minors with access to the information in the Internet aimed at facilitating illegal migration, trafficking in

human beings and related crimes.

3. Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Belarus, local executive and administrative bodies shall ensure regular publishing in the media and placement in the Internet of lists of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs possessing special permission (license) for activities related to employment outside the Republic of Belarus of citizens of the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens and stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Belarus.

4. State bodies and other organizations referred to in articles 811 of this Law shall, within their competence, inform citizens about the danger of trafficking in human beings and related crimes, its forms, taking appropriate precautions, methods of prevention of trafficking and related crimes and measures for the protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

5. It is prohibited to place and circulate in the Republic of Belarus information (advertising) messages:

5.1. on employment of citizens outside the Republic of Belarus - without coordination with the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Belarus;

5.2. on education for citizens outside the Republic of Belarus - without coordination with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 17. Measures to prevent trafficking in human beings and related offences in the sphere of education

1. Educational policy in the field of prevention of trafficking in human beings and related offences is conducted through:

1.1. banning individuals who have previously committed crimes against sexual inviolability and sexual freedom stipulated by Articles [172](#), [173](#), [181](#), [181](#)¹, [182](#), [187](#), [343](#) and [343](#)¹ of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Belarus, from being employed to positions related to implementation of educational activities, fulfillment of educational functions in relation to children, and from taking other positions and professions related to the ongoing work with children, the list of which is approved by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus;

1.2. including activities for preventing trafficking in human beings and related offences in the educational plans of facilities;

1.3. organizing training and advanced training on combating trafficking for employees of state bodies and other organizations listed

in Articles 7-10 of this Act.

2. Travel of citizens enrolled in educational facilities of the Republic of Belarus to study and (or) to participate during the school year in athletic, cultural and other mass actions abroad shall be carried out with the written permission of the heads of institutions, in which the citizens are enrolled.

3. Legal entities and individual entrepreneurs shall submit to the citizenship and migration unit of the chief department of the interior of the Minsk City Executive Committee and the departments of the interior of the regional executive committees of their registration the information:

3.1. on the citizens of the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens and stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Belarus, sent to work abroad (except for official business trips outside of the Republic of Belarus);

3.2. on the citizens being students in the educational system of the Republic of Belarus sent abroad to study and (or) participate in athletic, cultural and other events during the school year.

4. Information on the citizens, listed in subparagraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of the paragraph 3 of this Article shall be submitted to the citizenship and migration unit of chief department of interior of the Minsk City Executive Committee, the departments of interior of the regional executive committees within five working days from the date of departure of these individuals and within the same period from the date of their return.

5. The information provided for by paragraph 3 of this Article and paragraph 3 of Article 15 of this Act shall be compiled by the Ministry of Interior and sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus not later than the fifth day of each month.

SECTION 4 PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION OF THE VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

Article 18. Measures for protection and rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking

1. Measures for protection and rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking include:

1.1. ensuring safety;

1.2. social protection and rehabilitation;

- 1.3. suspension of the expulsion and deportation;
 - 1.4. assistance rendered by diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Belarus.
2. Measures for protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article shall not apply, and the measures applied shall be canceled (terminated) if the victim of trafficking impedes the pre-trial investigation or trial of criminal cases of trafficking or related crimes.

Article 19. Ensuring safety of victims of trafficking

1. Ensuring the safety of victims of trafficking, including their family members, relatives and other persons whom they reasonably believe to be close ones and their property is carried out in the manner prescribed by the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Belarus to ensure the safety of participants of criminal proceedings, other persons and their property.
2. Information on the victims of human trafficking or circumstances of trafficking, disclosure of which poses a threat to life or health of victims of trafficking and other persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, as well as on individuals, combating trafficking in human beings, shall not be disclosed.

Article 20. Social protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking

1. Social protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking is provided free of charge and includes:
 - 1.1. provision of temporary places of stay, including the bunks and food, to victims of trafficking:
 - under the age of three years - in the public health organizations;
 - aged three to eighteen years - in the social and educational centers for up to six months, or in the centers for the protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance to them;
 - over eighteen years of age – by the centers for the protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance to them, by the territorial centers of social services in conjunction with the local executive and administrative bodies in the "crisis" rooms or in the premises of other organizations;
 - 1.2. legal assistance (including explanation of their rights and

obligations under the legislation of the Republic of Belarus), including free legal assistance provided by the bar associations. Legal assistance to victims under the age of fourteen is rendered to their legal representatives;

1.3. healthcare provided by public health organizations in the form of necessary medical services in accordance with the list determined by the Ministry of Health, including in-patient treatment, regardless of place of residence of the victim of trafficking;

1.4. psychological assistance in the form of psychological counseling, psychological treatment, psychological intervention and socio-educational assistance;

1.5. identification of families of minors-victims of trafficking or organizing for their fostering in other families, in the absence of such possibility - in children's residential care institutions;

1.6. assistance in finding employment at a permanent job;

1.7. other types of assistance in accordance with the decisions of local councils of deputies, executive and administrative bodies.

2. For the purposes to returning to favorable living conditions victims of trafficking are sent by the prosecution bodies:

2.1. to public health organizations, subject to the local executive and administrative bodies for the social protection and rehabilitation provided for in the second paragraph of sub-clause 1.1 and sub-clauses 1.3, 1.4 and 1.7 of clause 1 of this article - under the age of three years;

2.2. to the socio-educational centers for social protection and rehabilitation provided for in the third paragraph of sub-clause 1.1 and 1.2-1.5 and 1.7 of clause 1 of this article - aged three to eighteen years;

2.3. to the territorial centers of social services for social protection and rehabilitation provided for in the fourth paragraph of sub-clauses 1.1 and 1.2, 1.4, 1.6 and 1.7 of clause 1 of this article – above the age of eighteen;

2.4. to centers for the protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance to them.

3. Organization of social protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking is provided by:

3.1. local executive and administrative bodies, to which public health organization are subordinate to - in relation to the provision of assistance under sub-clause 1.3 of clause 1 of this article, and assistance to victims of trafficking under the age of three under the second paragraph of sub-clause 1.1 and sub-clause 1.4 of clause 1 of this article;

3.2. local executive and administrative bodies, to which educational institutions are subordinate to - in relation to the provision of assistance to victims of trafficking between the ages of three and eighteen years, under the third paragraph of sub-clause 1.1 and sub-clauses 1.2, 1.4 and 1.5 of clause 1 of this article;

3.3. bodies for labor, employment and social protection of the local executive and administrative bodies - in relation to the provision of assistance to victims of trafficking who have reached the age of eighteen years, under the fourth paragraph of sub-clause 1.1 and sub-clauses 1.2, 1.4 and 1.6 of clause 1 of this article;

3.4. non-governmental organizations, international or foreign organizations.

4. Victims of trafficking may be granted financial support in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 21. Centers for protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance to them

1. Centers for protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance to them are the institutions established by international or foreign organizations within the framework of international technical assistance projects, or by non-governmental organizations for the purposes of providing the victims of trafficking with temporary places of stay, with legal, psychological and other assistance to ensure their safety and protection.

2. Centers for protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance to them perform the non-commercial functions and are financed under the charters of non-governmental organizations, international or foreign organizations.

3. In order to ensure the safety of victims of trafficking the agencies of interior of the Republic of Belarus shall guard the premises of the centers for protection of victims of trafficking and rendering assistance to them.

Article 22. Suspension of expulsion and deportation of victims of trafficking

1. In case a foreign citizen or stateless person are victims of trafficking, as well as witnesses in criminal cases of trafficking or crimes related to trafficking, or provide assistance to bodies carrying out

investigative activity, upon a reasoned request by such body or authority conducting criminal proceedings, expulsion or deportation of such persons shall be suspended until the resolution (verdict) of the criminal case against the perpetrators of trafficking or a related offence. In that case the person who is a victim of trafficking is registered at the registration authority for the actual place of temporary residence in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus regardless of the circumstances of his/her entry into the Republic of Belarus.

2. For foreign citizens or stateless persons who are victims of trafficking and actively contributing to the investigation of criminal cases of trafficking or a related offence, whose permit of stay in the territory of the Republic of Belarus has expired, the agencies of interior of the Republic of Belarus shall, upon a reasoned request by the authority conducting the investigative activity, or body conducting the criminal proceedings, in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus, issue a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Belarus, as a rule, for the period not exceeding one year for their participation in criminal proceedings, social protection and rehabilitation.

Article 23. Assistance rendered by diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Belarus

Diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Belarus:

explain to the citizens of the Republic of Belarus, who are victims of trafficking, the provisions of the legislation of the Republic of Belarus, as well as the laws of the receiving State on combating trafficking in human beings and protection of victims of trafficking;

take the necessary measures ensure observance of the laws of the receiving State on combating trafficking and protection of victims of trafficking in relation to citizens of the Republic of Belarus;

ensure the return of citizens of the Republic of Belarus, who are victims of trafficking, to the country of their permanent residence;

take other measures to protect victims of trafficking under the laws of the Republic of Belarus, including international agreements.

Article 24. Recovery of costs associated with protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking

Funds spent on ensuring protection and rehabilitation of the

victims of trafficking shall be charged to the perpetrators of trafficking or related offences via court proceedings.

SECTION 5 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Article 25. Foundations of international cooperation in the field of combating trafficking in human beings

1. In the field of combating human trafficking the Republic of Belarus under the laws of the Republic of Belarus, including international agreements, cooperates with other states, their law enforcement agencies, as well as international and foreign organizations working in the field of combating trafficking in human beings.

2. The main directions of international cooperation in combating trafficking in human beings are:

2.1. development and conclusion of international agreements in the sphere of combating trafficking in human beings, including the protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking;

2.2. interaction with the specialized agencies of foreign countries, including the investigative activities to prevent, detect, prosecute trafficking in human beings and related crimes;

2.3. joint creation and development of information and early warning systems, response and control systems, aimed at improving the efficiency of combating trafficking in human beings;

2.4. exchange of experience.

3. Provision of international legal assistance in criminal cases of trafficking and related offences shall be carried out in accordance with international agreements, and in their absence – on the principle of reciprocity in the manner prescribed by the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Belarus.

4. Extradition of the perpetrators of trafficking and related offences to a foreign state for criminal prosecution and (or) serving the sentence is conducted based on international agreements, and in their absence - in the manner prescribed by the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Belarus.

Article 26. National Rapporteur on combating trafficking in human beings

1. National Rapporteur on combating trafficking in human beings

shall work to ensure cooperation between the Republic of Belarus with other states, their law enforcement agencies, as well as international and foreign organizations working in the field of combating trafficking in human beings.

2. The National Rapporteur on combating trafficking in human beings shall be the Minister of Interior (the person performing his duties).

3. The main functions of the National Rapporteur on combating trafficking in human beings are:

3.1. studying and compiling the practice of enforcement of the laws of the Republic of Belarus on combating trafficking in human beings;

3.2. informing other States, as well as international and foreign organizations on combating trafficking in human beings in the Republic of Belarus;

3.3. international cooperation for the purpose of sharing experience;

3.4. preparation and submitting to the Council of Ministers an annual report on trafficking in human beings with the assessment of the effectiveness of measures and proposals to improve the legislation of the Republic of Belarus on combating trafficking in human beings.

SECTION 6 LIABILITY FOR TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND RELATED OFFENCES

Article 27. Liability for trafficking in human beings and related offences

1. A person perpetrating trafficking in human beings or related offense is liable in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus.

2. The behavior of victims of trafficking, expressed as a reluctance or inability to change their anti-social behavior caused by trafficking or related crimes, shall not indemnify the perpetrators of human trafficking or related offenses, and cannot be regarded as a circumstance mitigating their liability.

Article 28. Suspension of organization's activities

1. In case of disclosing facts listed in clause 3 of Article 8 of this Act, the organization's activities shall be suspended by decision of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Belarus. Along with the

imposition of such decision the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Belarus shall appeal to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus for recognition of the organization as one involved in human trafficking, banning its activities in the territory of the Republic of Belarus, elimination of such organization registered in the Republic of Belarus or termination of the representation of a foreign or international organizations located in the territory of the Republic of Belarus.

2. The decision on suspension of the activities of the organization shall be issued or sent by mail to the head or another official of the governing body of the organization not later than the day following its issuance.

3. The organizations with suspended activities may not use bank accounts, except for the payments to the budget, state budget and extrabudgetary funds under civil law and labor contracts with the citizens, as well as payments related to compensation for damage caused by its actions.

4. The organization with suspended activities shall resume their activities after the entry into force of decision of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus on refusal to recognize the organization as one involved in human trafficking.

Article 29. Recognition of the organization as one involved in human trafficking, banning its activities and its termination

1. The organization is recognized as one involved in human trafficking, its activities in the territory of the Republic of Belarus are banned, such organization registered in the Republic of Belarus is eliminated or the representation of a foreign or international organizations located in the territory of the Republic of Belarus is terminated on the basis of decision of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus.

2. In case of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus recognizing an organization registered in the Republic of Belarus as one involved in trafficking, banning its activities in the territory of the Republic of Belarus and its elimination, its property remaining after satisfaction of creditors (if they are not involved in trafficking) shall be seized.

3. Funds raised from sale of property of organizations involved in trafficking seized in accordance with clause 2 of this Article and clause

3 of Article 30 of this Law shall be used to:

3.1. redeem damage (damages) in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Belarus to the victims of trafficking;

3.2. ensure implementation of government programs in the field of combating human trafficking, as well as support organizations that provide assistance in the rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

4. Organization recognized by the decision of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus as one involved in trafficking is included in the list of organizations involved in human trafficking to be published in the media. The Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Belarus shall maintain and publish such list in the order determined by the Council of Ministers.

Article 30. Banning activities of international and foreign organizations involved in trafficking in human beings

1. Activities of international and foreign organizations involved in trafficking, recognized as such in accordance with this Act or international treaties in the territory of the Republic of Belarus are prohibited.

2. Prohibition of activities of international and foreign organizations involved in human trafficking in the territory of the Republic of Belarus entails:

2.1. cessation of operation of representative offices of such organizations within the territory of the Republic of Belarus;

2.2. refusal to foreign citizens and stateless persons who have or had some relation to trafficking or related offenses, of registration or renewal, and (or) reducing the period of temporary residence in the Republic of Belarus, as well as the refusal to grant permits for temporary and permanent residence Republic of Belarus or revocation of such permits;

2.3. banning any activity of such organizations in the territory of the Republic of Belarus;

2.4. prohibition to open offices in the Republic of Belarus of such organizations, as well as the creation by such organizations of other organizations or participation in their creation.

3. In the event of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus recognizing a foreign or international organization, registered outside the Republic of Belarus, as one involved in trafficking, banning its activities in the territory of the Republic of Belarus and the termination

of the representation of a foreign or international organizations located in the territory of the Republic of Belarus, the property and assets of such foreign or international organizations located in the territory of the Republic of Belarus and remaining after satisfaction of creditors' claims (if they are not involved in trafficking) is seized.

SECTION 7 CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OVER THE COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Article 31. Control over the activities of government agencies engaged in combating trafficking in human beings

Control over the activities of government agencies engaged in combating trafficking in human beings is exercised by the President of the Republic of Belarus and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus within its competence.

Article 32. Supervision of observance of legislation on combating trafficking in human beings

Supervision of the observance of the legislation of the Republic of Belarus on combating trafficking in human beings is exercised by the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Belarus and subordinate public prosecutors.

SECTION 8 FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 33. Harmonization of legal acts of the Republic of Belarus with this Act

Council of Ministers shall within six months:

- prepare and submit under the established procedure proposals on bringing the legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus in accordance with this Act;
- harmonize decisions of the Government of the Republic of Belarus in accordance with this Act;
- ensure that republican state bodies subordinate to the Government of the Republic of Belarus harmonize their legal acts in conformity with this Act;
- take other measures necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

Article 34. Coming of the Act into Force

This Act shall come into force six months after its official publication except for this article and article 33, which take effect from the date of official publication of this Law.

President of the Republic of Belarus