The Business of Traffic in Humans

Thursday 8 May 2014

Venue: Haldane Room, Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford

Participant Biographies and Presentation Outlines

Session I: The Scope and Extent of the Phenomenon of Human Trafficking in the Business Context

Jason Nunn, Finance Against Trafficking
Klara Skrivankova, Anti-Slavery International
Mei-Ling McNamara, A journalist and documentary filmmaker, a PhD candidate at the University of Edinburgh

Jason Nunn, Finance Against Trafficking

Jason has spent over 25 years working in large multi-national businesses, predominantly operating in the Oil and Gas Sector. He originally started his career as a Civil Engineer, but for the last 15 years he has worked in various Corporate roles including as Head of Investor Relations and Strategy for a FTSE 250 company. Since 2007, Jason has been involved with supporting Stop the Traffik as they engaged with business to lead the campaign to eradicate Human Trafficking. This resulted in the formation of Finance Against Trafficking, of which he is now a Board Member. In 2013 Jason set up his own company and currently supports many businesses as they develop multi-national growth strategies.

Presentation: Prevention of Human Trafficking: A Practical Approach for Business

Prevention of human trafficking requires action on multiple fronts; within businesses and within the communities in which they operate. However, all businesses have multiple, long, complex and multi-layered supply chains. A practical, risk based approach to modification of policies, procedures and operating practices is therefore required if real change is going to be affected and human trafficking eradicated.
Klara Skrivankova, Anti-Slavery International

Klara is a recognised expert on human trafficking and forced labour in the UK and internationally. She has been working in the field since 2000, starting as a programme manager in La Strada Czech Republic, a leading European network assisting trafficked victims. In 2005 she joined Anti-Slavery International in London, the world’s oldest human rights organization (founded in 1839 as a direct successor of the abolitionist organization founded by William Wilberforce and Thomas Clarkson). In Anti-Slavery she leads its Anti-Trafficking Programme managing research, advocacy and projects to eliminate all forms of modern slavery in the UK and Europe. She frequently provides expert witness statements in British courts in modern slavery cases and in 2007 founded, with two barristers, the UK Trafficking Law and Policy Forum, an educational think-tank on human trafficking and related issues. She also represents the organization in various forums, including the Home Office Joint Strategic Group on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.

Since 2009 she has acted as the programme adviser for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation Forced Labour Programme. She was also a specialist contributor of Human Trafficking Handbook: Recognising Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery in the UK, (2011) with chapters on forced labour and on compensation for victims of modern day slavery. Ms Skrivankova has held numerous expert appointments internationally. She has been an expert on human trafficking with the Council of Europe since 2005 and became a member of the EU Experts Group on Trafficking in Human Beings in 2008, advising the European Commission. From 2010-2013 she was a trustee on the board of the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking and 2009-2013 on the board of the UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery.

Presentation: Why is human trafficking your business?

The presentation will discuss the proliferation of human trafficking and forced labour in supply chains with particular focus on labour supply chains and the ways responsible businesses ought to be approaching the problem. The current legislative and policy developments in the UK and other parts of Europe will also be covered.

Mei-Ling McNamara, A journalist and documentary filmmaker, a PhD candidate at the University of Edinburgh

Mei-Ling is a journalist and documentary filmmaker covering issues on human rights and social justice. She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Edinburgh in Trans-Disciplinary Documentary Film where her work explores the spatial, psycho-social and legal challenges faced by survivors of forced labour in Britain today.

Presentation: Documenting the Undocumented: Trafficking, Trauma and Testimony

Trafficking victims all too often inhabit a twilight existence, and their testimonies, often marred by psychological trauma, raise questions of agency, control and criminalisation. Through documentary film my project highlights the experiences of several forced labour victims seeking justice through the British legal system, while including the expertise of psychologists, MSPs, social workers and law enforcement to understand gaps in the system.
Session II: The Role and Responsibility of Private Enterprises in the Fight against Human Trafficking

Darryl Dixon, Gangmasters Licencing Authority
Colleen Theron, director CLT Envirolaw
Neill Wilkins, Institute for Human Rights and Business
Parosha Chandran, 1 Pump Court Chambers

Darryl Dixon, Gangmasters Licencing Authority

Darryl is responsible for the Gangmasters Licensing Authority’s future strategy, encompassing: development of new powers; regulatory and innovative enforcement approaches; international exchange agreements supporting cross-border operations. The functions of the teams ensure that labour providers are compliant, and remain compliant, with the standards expected of the GLA, to be fit to hold a licence; and that those who operate outside the law are identified, and, where appropriate, prosecuted. Darryl holds an MSc in Security Management from the Scarman Centre for the Study of Public Order, Leicester University; and is a Fellow of the Security Institute.

Presentation: The Role of the Supply Chain in Supporting the Identification of Forced Labour

This presentation will address why it is important for the GLA to be supported in principle, and practically, in this identification, and what needs to be done to ‘operationalize’ that support. It will then look back at the landscape before the existence of the GLA, to the Temporary Labour Working Group, its code, and audits, what was missing in terms of approach, and the action the GLA needed to take; then forward to where we are now, training supply chain staff, to be an exemplar of one of the aims in the non-legislative action plan to support the Modern Slavery Bill (see ‘supply chains’ on page 13 of the Home Office’s draft Modern Slavery Bill paper).

Colleen Theron, Director CLT Envirolaw

Colleen is qualified as a solicitor in England, Wales, Scotland and South Africa, and holds an LLM in environmental law from the University of Aberdeen (with distinction). Colleen is also the founder and director of CLT Envirolaw, a niche sustainability company providing specialist advice to companies and directors on sustainability and business and human rights issues. Colleen is a director of Finance against Human Trafficking. She regularly advises business on the application of human rights issues as part of their sustainability programmes. Colleen has had an interest in CSR, corporate reporting and sustainability issues throughout her career and is published extensively in this field (see website for publications)

Presentation: Applying the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights in the Fight against Human Trafficking

The presentation will explore how some of the key principles apply to human trafficking and the steps that business should take to tackle the issues.
Parosha Chandran, Barrister, 1 Pump Court Chambers

Parosha Chandran is an award-winning human rights barrister who has been practicing at the Bar for 17 years. In 2012, Parosha was appointed as an Expert Consultant by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro and in this capacity she provided expert advice in relation to the OSCE Policy & Legislative Recommendations on the Non-Punishment Provision (2013). She has twice been appointed a member of the Group of Experts on human trafficking convened by the UNODC to provide critical guidance on key aspects of the Palermo Protocol trafficking definition, including “Abuse of a Position of Vulnerability” (2012) and “Consent” (2014, UNODC publications pending).

She is the General Editor and a specialist contributor to the leading textbook “Human Trafficking Handbook: Recognising Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery in the UK”, (Lexisnexis, 2011). She is the co-founder of the educational think-tank, the Trafficking Law and Policy Forum (founded in 2007). Several of Parosha’s cases have led to significant developments in human trafficking law and policy within the UK and abroad and she recently acted for two of the four successful appellants in the landmark non-punishment criminal appeal case of R v L and others [2013]. In these cases the Court of Criminal Appeal quashed the convictions of victims of human trafficking whose crimes arose as a manifestation of their trafficking and exploitation. She has also recently acted for the Gangmasters Licencing Authority in regulatory cases involving businesses, trafficking and exploitation.


The presentation will apply a comparative approach to law and case-law to explore how it may be possible to hold businesses responsible for using the goods and services of trafficked and exploitation persons.

Neill Wilkins, Institute for Human Rights and Business

Neill is Migration Programme Manager for the Institute for Human Rights and Business and manages the Staff Wanted Initiative, a joint project between the IHRB and Anti-Slavery International, which seeks to prevent the exploitation of migrant agency staff in the UK hospitality Industry.

He also helped oversee the development of the Dhaka Principles for Migration With Dignity - a set of human rights based principles that offer a clear framework for understanding the challenges businesses face regarding the recruitment and employment of migrant workers worldwide. Neill formerly worked as part of the Campaigns Team at The Body Shop International where he was involved with a number of environmental and human rights campaigns.
In today’s globalised economy, our goods are often produced far from where they are bought, successively changing hands along complex and opaque supply chains. But in an increasingly interconnected world, governments, consumers, and investors expect companies to make their supply chains more transparent and to take responsibility for the labour practices within them. Increasingly attention is also focussing on supply chains for labour and the role of labour brokers and recruitment agencies. Human trafficking is a complex issue that poses a risk to companies active across many sectors and geographies. Migrant workers are particularly vulnerable to exploitation and face human rights abuses at every stage of the migration cycle. The Dhaka Principles for Migration with Dignity provide a framework for understanding, clear guidelines for business and serve as a catalyst for change.
Session III: The Role and Responsibility of the State in Regulating Businesses in the Human Trafficking Context

Rt Hon Frank Field, MP, Chair of Parliamentary Select Committee on Modern Slavery Bill
Petya Nestorova, The Council of Europe, Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)
Catherine Bearder, MEP

Rt Hon Frank Field, MP, Chair of Parliamentary Select Committee on Modern Slavery Bill

Frank was first elected Member of Parliament for Birkenhead in 1979. Between 1980 and 1981 he served as Shadow Education and Social Security spokesman under the leadership of Michael Foot. In 1990 he took up the chairmanship of the Social Security Select Committee and continued in this role up to 1997. In 1997 he accepted the position of Minister for Welfare Reform in Tony Blair’s first cabinet. He then served as a member of the Public Accounts Committee between 2002 and 2005. Before the 2010 General Election he led the campaign against the removal of the 10p rate of tax.

In 2010 Frank was appointed Chair of the Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances. In October 2013 Home Secretary Theresa May invited Frank to chair an independent Evidence Review to scope a new Modern Slavery Bill. The report of the Review, Establishing Britain as a world leader in the fight against modern slavery, was published in December 2013. Frank then went on to chair the Joint Committee of Both Houses of Parliament on the Draft Modern Slavery Bill, which reported in April 2014.

Presentation: Making a Modern Slavery Bill – the story so far.

Petya Nestorova, The Council of Europe, Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)

Petya Nestorova has been the Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings since October 2010. She is responsible for organising the activities of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), which monitors compliance with the provisions of the Convention, and the development and implementation of activities to promote the Convention and follow up on GRETA’s evaluation reports.

Prior to that, she was Head of Division at the Council of Europe’s Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) and has extensive practical experience of monitoring places of deprivation of liberty. Ms Nestorova holds Master degrees in Comparative European Studies and International Economic Relations, as well as a D.Phil from the University of Sussex, UK.
**Presentation:** Towards Corporate Accountability for Trafficking in Human Beings: Narrowing the Rhetoric-Reality Gap through Monitoring of International Legal Obligations

The presentation will summarise the existing standards for corporate accountability for human trafficking. On the basis of an analysis of the country monitoring reports of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), the presentation will discuss good practices and gaps in the ways in which States fulfil their obligations to prevent human trafficking and provide remedies to victims of human trafficking resulting from the activities of companies. Finally, the presentation will provide recommendations for future activities relating to business and human trafficking.

**Catherine Bearder, MEP**

Catherine is a Liberal Democrat Member of the European Parliament for South East England. She has been working on human trafficking and, among other things, has been campaigning for the UK to have an anti-trafficking commissioner.