

# Human Trafficking

Core Concepts. Global Trends.

Facts and Figures

# What's Trafficking in Human Beings (THB):

## Complex issue:

### ▪serious crime:

Organized crime groups

Linked with other crimes.

### ▪human rights violation/dignity

### ▪huge business:

▪vulnerable people traded by criminals as commodities for the sole purpose of economic gain

▪2nd/rd most profitable illegal business.

## Global dimension



# WHAT IS TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS?

Flexible and loose cell structures  
○○○○○○○

Often share nationality, kinship ethnic ties with their victims  
○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○

Male dominated  
○○○○○○○

Mainly EU OCGs  
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Abuse of Legislative Loopholes  
○○○○○○○



Use of LBS  
Internet & Social Media  
Recruitment  
○○○○○○○

## ORGANISED CRIME GROUPS



Benefit Fraud  
Document Fraud  
Drug Trafficking  
Drug Production



Property Crimes  
Money Laundering  
Facilitation of Illegal Immigration

### LINKS WITH OTHER CRIMES

### PUSH FACTORS

Gender or other Discrimination  
Lack of Education  
Inequalities in Labour Market  
Conflict and War  
Human Rights Violations  
Unemployment  
Persecution Violence Abuse

### PULL FACTORS

False promises (high salary, quality of life, good working conditions)  
Economic Crisis  
Diaspora Communities



## VICTIMS

### SUBJECT TO

Mental & Physical Damage

Human Rights Violations



Victimisation & Re-Trafficking

# Push factors

- **Push factors (economic and social circumstances in origin):**
  - Demographic explosion
  - Extreme poverty
  - Vulnerability
  - Discrimination
  - Lack of education
  - Corruption
  - Violence
  - Conflict areas and war zones
  - Lack of rule of law

# Pull factors

- Pull factors:
  - High living standards and quality of life
  - Employment opportunities (false promise of a good job)
  - Increased demand for cheap labour services due to the economic crisis
  - Diaspora communities in destination countries.

## Defining THB

- **Definition: international standard**
- **UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000): Palermo Protocol.**
- **THB as a process: vulnerable people are recruited in their community by means of deception, coercion, fraud... in order to be exploited.**
- **Exploitation itself is not an element of THB**

# Elements

- **3 elements:**
  - a. **Action:** recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, reception.
  - b. **Means:** coercion, violence, threats, deception, debt bondage....
  - c. **Purpose:** exploitation (forced labour, sexual exploitation, organ removal) + forced marriage, forced begging, forced criminality

Means

# Tools of Power and Control



Graphic developed by Human Rights First



Business

THE BUSINESS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
**\$150 BILLION EACH YEAR IN PROFITS**

**\$99 BILLION SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

**\$34 BILLION CONSTRUCTION, MINING,  
MANUFACTURING, & UTILITIES**

**\$9 BILLION AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHING**

**\$8 BILLION DOMESTIC SERVITUDE**

Data: International Labour Organization

## Trafficking vs Slavery

- Trafficking itself is not “modern slavery”.
- Trafficking is just a process (recruiting human being, by certain means in order to be exploited, usually by different people).
- Exploitation/enslavement are just the purpose of trafficking.
- Exploitation/Enslavement are beyond trafficking. Big issue.



# Trafficking vs. Smuggling

- According to UNODC (2017), Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling, 3 crucial differences:
- Location:
  - Smuggling crosses international borders
  - Trafficking can happen within one country or crossing borders.
- Consent:
  - Smuggling is a service a person ask for.
  - Trafficking involves either forcing or deceiving a person into taking a journey
- Exploitation:
  - Trafficking is defined by the purpose of exploitation.
  - Smuggling ends once the payment and border crossing is complete and the person is free afterwards.



	TRAFFICKING	SMUGGLING
CRIME	against individual	against state
RELATIONSHIP	exploited as commodity	provides service
LENGTH	longer-term exploitative	voluntary short-term
PROFIT	ongoing appropriation	one-off payment
BORDERS	can be internal	always across borders



# Legal Framework

## INTERNACIONAL LEVEL (UN):

- Palermo Protocol (2000)

## EUROPEAN LEVEL:

- Council of Europe:
  - Warsaw Convention (2005)
- EU:
  - Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA.
  - EU Directive 2011/36/EU

## NATIONAL LEVEL:

# History

- Before Palermo: White slave traffic; trade in women.
- Relevant Instruments:
  - 1904: International Agreement for the Supression of the White Slave Traffic.
  - 1910: International Convention for the Supression of the White Slave Traffic.
  - 1921: International Convention for the Supression of the Traffic in Women and Children
  - 1933: International Convention for the Supression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age.

# Palermo Protocol


UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (A/RES/55/25) and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (Palermo Protocol 2000):


- Definition: international standard (art. 3). Key issue
- States obligations: Protect, Punish, Prevent.

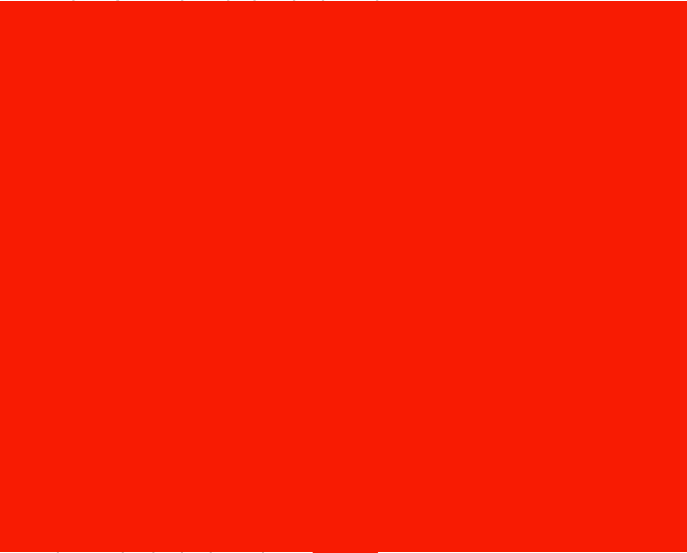



## Palermo Protocol: art. 3 a)

- THB: 'the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments and benefits to achieve the consent of a person, having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation'.

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- Forms of exploitation: the crime of THB *'shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or removal of organs.'*
  - The Palermo Protocol enumerated several forms of exploitation, though not limiting them, giving legislators the possibility to include other forms.

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- Consent is irrelevant when applying any of the means (means make it irrelevant from a legal point of view).
  - Minors: no mean needed (action+minor+purpose of exploitation = THB)



▪ **Main changes that the Palermo Protocol brought:**

- THB recognised as a crime prior to the actual exploitation: purpose.
- International obligation to punish THB.
- First steps to protect victims and prevent the crime.
- Victims of THB if subjected to at least one of the actions mentioned and by one of the means specified
- Purpose of exploitation: beyond sexual exploitation (forced labour, slavery, organ removal...)
- Victims: male and women.

# Warsaw Convention

- **The Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. 2005.**
- **Legally binding instrument. Beyond the minimum standards: human rights perspective; focused on victim protection.**



- **Definition: art. 4 (following Palermo)**
- **Multidisciplinary approach: prevention, protection, prosecution.**
- **Promoting international cooperation.**
- **Monitoring mechanism to evaluate its implementation:**
  - **Comitee of the Parties**
  - **GRETA (Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings): Reports evaluating different countries.**




- **Prevention:**

- awareness-raising;
- economic and social initiatives to tackle the underlying causes of trafficking;
- Discouraging demand
- Border control measures to prevent and detect victims



- **Protect and promote the rights of victims:**
  - Not to be treated as irregular migrants
  - Physical and psychological assistance
  - Reintegration into society
  - Recovery and reflection period (min. 30 days) to make a decisión about possible cooperation with the authorities.
  - Renewable residence permit (personal situation/cooperation).
  - Compensation
  - Repatriation




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- **Criminal and procedural law:**
  - **Effective prosecution and punishment of traffickers.**
  - **Victim and witness protection during investigation and court procedures.**
  - **Avoid to impose penalties on victims for their involvement in unlawful activities.**

## European Union

- Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA on combating trafficking in human beings.
  - It aims to approximate laws and regulations of EU and introduce common framework provisions at European level.
  - Define trafficking as a form of Organised Crime. Purpose of labour or sexual exploitation.
- Directive 2011/36/UE on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings:
  - Provides binding legislation to prevent trafficking, prosecute criminals and better protect the victims.
  - Higher standards:
  - New forms of exploitation: forced begging, forced criminality, organ removal, forced marriage, illegal adoption.


## **National law (Spain):**

- 2010: Spain passed a law defining a new crime (art. 177 bis Criminal Code) , following international standards.
- Modified in 2015: New forms of exploitation (according EU Directive 2011/36):

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- A large red rectangular area on the left side of the slide, with a small downward-pointing triangle at the bottom center, indicating redacted content.
- Basic figure (art. 177.1): "Shall be punished with penalties from five to eight years imprisonment as convict of THB who, in the Spanish territory, from Spain, in transit or as destiny, using violence, intimidation or deception, abusing of a superior situation or necessity or vulnerability of national or foreign victims, capture, transport, transfer, shelter, receive or host with any of the following purposes": a) forced labour, slavery or similar practices, servitude, begging. b) sexual exploitation, including pornography; c) forced criminality d) organ removal e) forced marriage,



- **Minors:** "Even when not applying any means set forth in the preceding paragraph, will be considered THB any of the actions listed in preceding paragraph when performed on minors for exploiting ends".
- **Consent:** "the consent of the THB victim is irrelevant when applied any of the means listed in the first paragraph of this article".

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- A large red rectangular redaction box covers the left side of the slide, with a small downward-pointing triangle at its bottom center.
- In addition to Criminal law:
  - Framework Protocol for the Protection of Victims of Trafficking (2011): identification, victims assistance and protection.
  - National Action Plan to combat trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation (2008).
  - National Plan to combat trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation (2015-2018).
  - Central coordination: Special anti-trafficking Prosecutor.
  - Specialized anti-trafficking NGOs (sexual exploitation).

## National Law (Russia)

- Prosecution of Trafficking through Articles 127.1 (trade in people) and 127.2 Criminal Code (use of slave labor).
- Inconsistent with the definition of trafficking under international law (means: force, fraud, coercion as aggravating factors, not elements).
- No national anti-trafficking action plan.
- No central coordination body.
- Lack of official statistics.
- No ratification of Warsaw Convention

The background features several thin, light gray curved lines that sweep across the page, primarily concentrated on the left side. A prominent red graphic element, consisting of a horizontal bar at the top and a larger speech bubble-like shape below it, frames the text.

Global Trends  
UNODC Global  
Report 2018



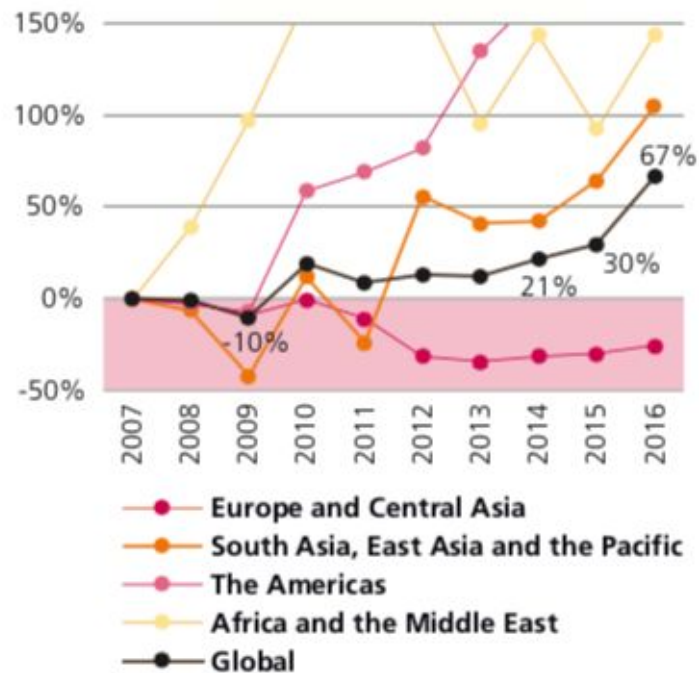
A red speech bubble graphic with a white outline, containing the text 'More victims, more convictions'. The bubble has a tail pointing downwards and to the right.

## More victims, more convictions

- More victims detected, more convictions globally.
- What does it mean? More effective identification (legislative reforms, coordination, special law enforcement capacities, improved victim protection) or an increased number of victims (in countries with long-standing-antitrafficking framework)?
- Still large areas of impunity.
- Lack of reliable data

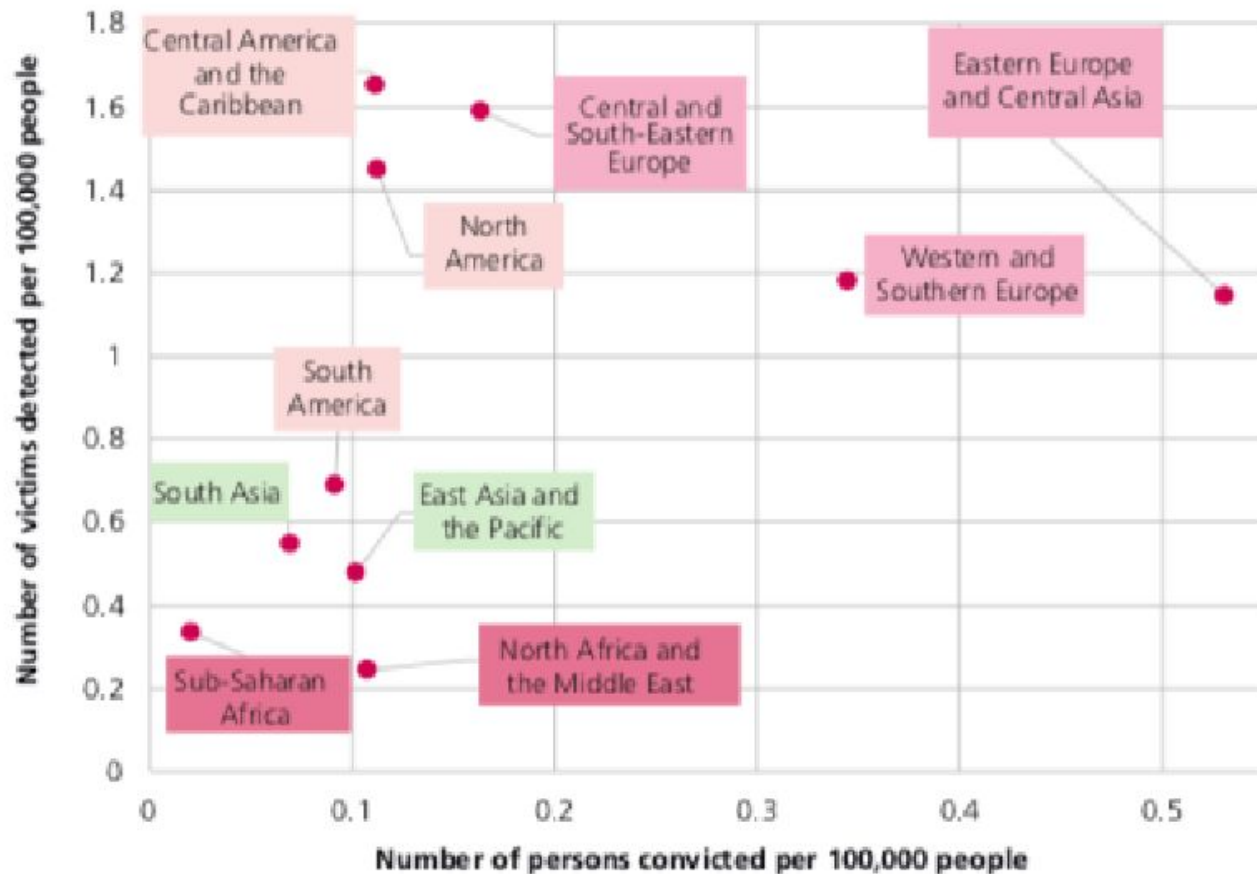
Increases in the numbers

Trends in the number of people convicted of trafficking in persons since 2007, globally and by region, 2007-2016



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

## Subregions by average number of trafficking convictions and number of victims detected per 100 population, 2014-2017



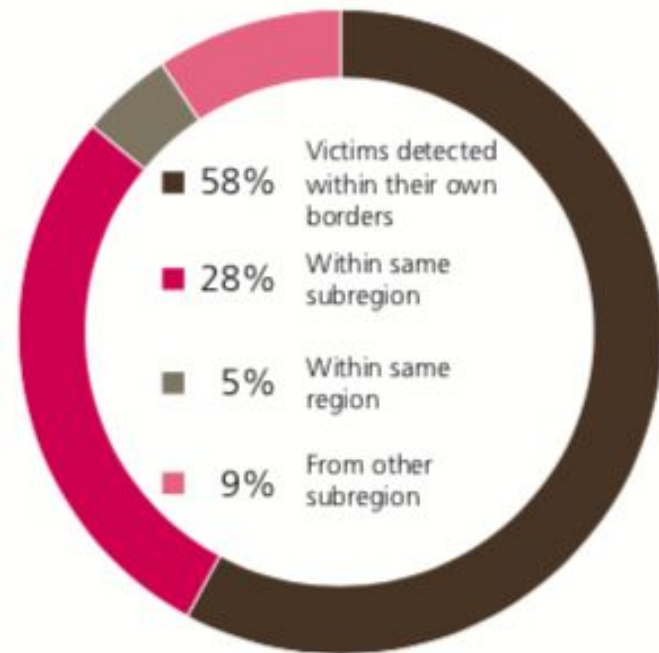
Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

## Trafficking flows

- Most victims detected in their countries of citizenship (domestic trafficking)
- Wealthy countries (Western and Southern Europe; Middle East): destination for long-distance flows.
- Western and Southern Europe and North America: victims from many countries around the world.



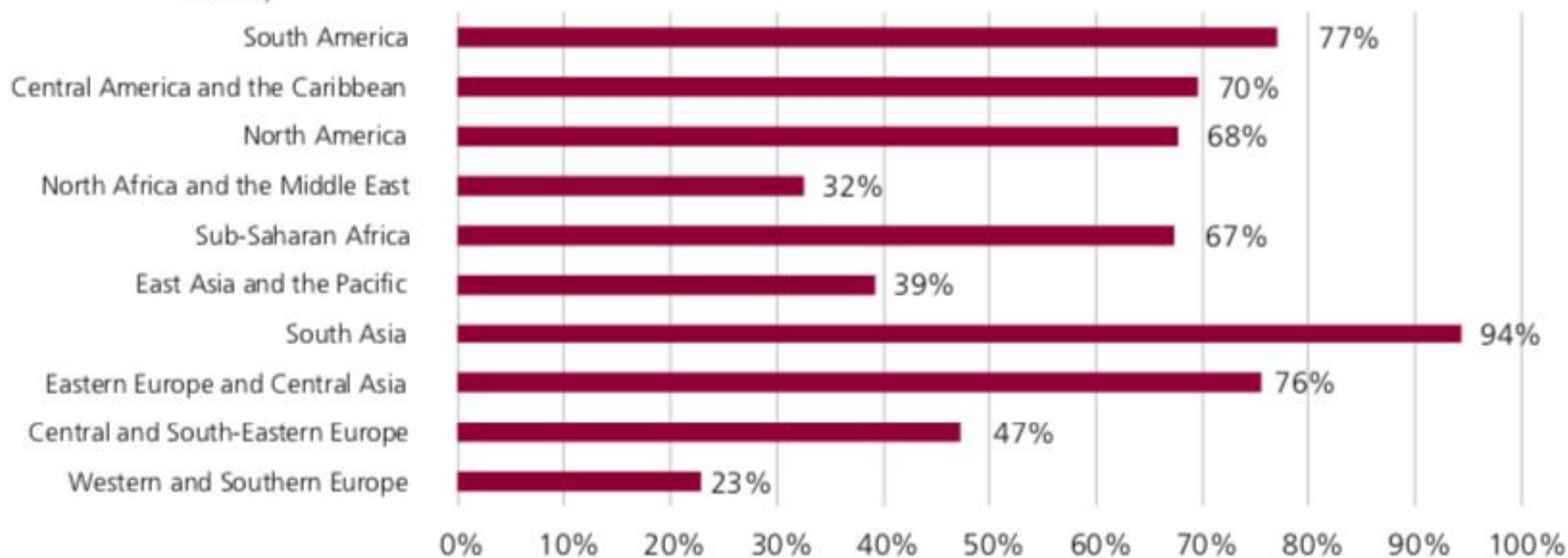
**FIG. 38** Share of detected victims by area of origin and detection\*, 2016 (or most recent)



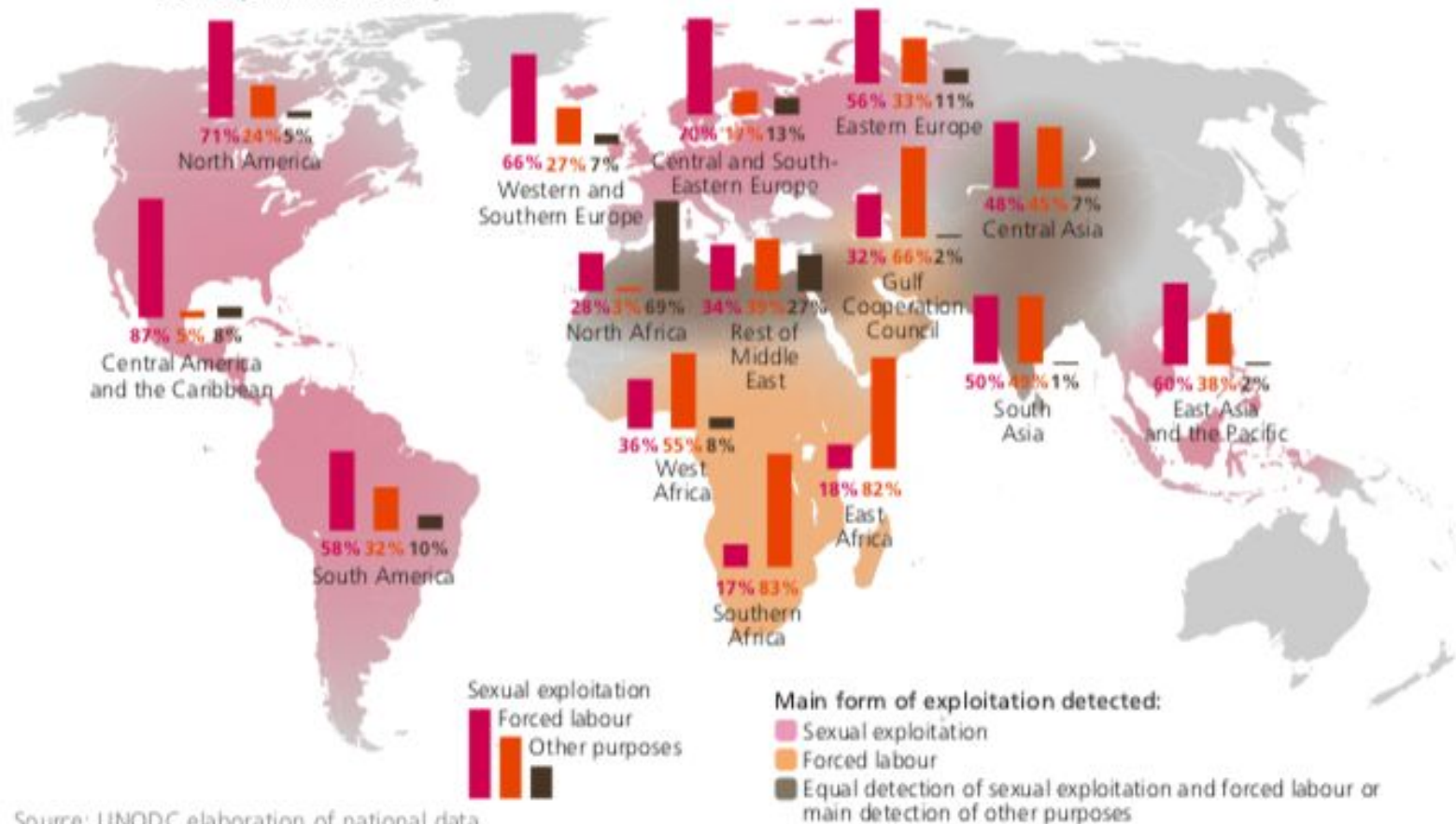
Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

\* Estimate based on 16,159 detected victims whose citizenship was reported by 90 countries.

**FIG. 41** Share of victims detected within their own country's borders, by subregion, 2016 (or most recent)



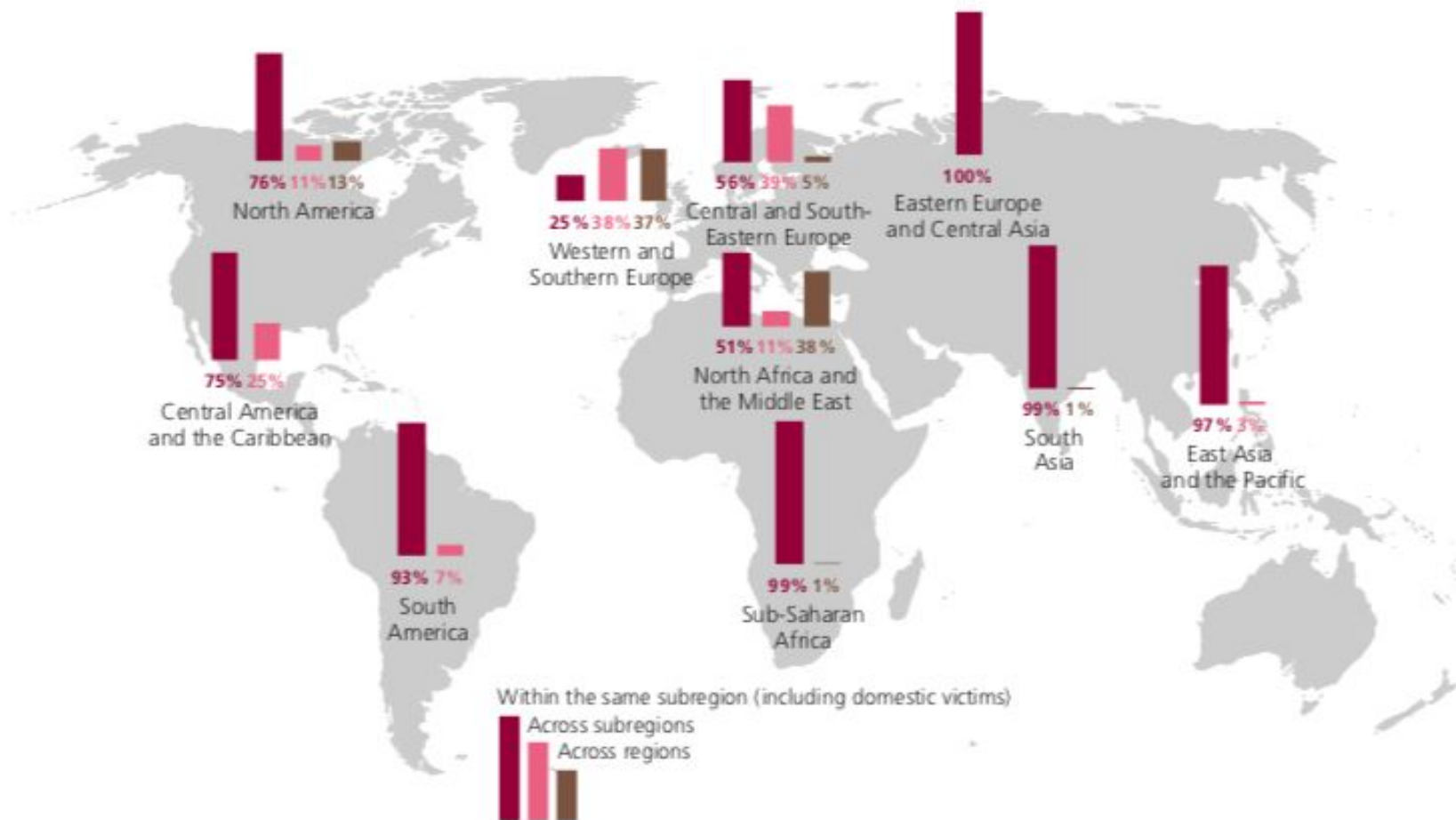
**MAP 3** Shares of detected trafficking victims, by form of exploitation, by subregion of detection, 2016 (or most recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## Shares of detected victims by area of origin and of detection, by subregion, 2016 (or most recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



**MAP 6** Main detected transregional trafficking flows, 2014-2017



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

**MAP 7** Share of traffickers convicted in Western and Southern Europe, by area of citizenship, 2016 (or most recent)

10 countries (n=1,015 persons convicted)



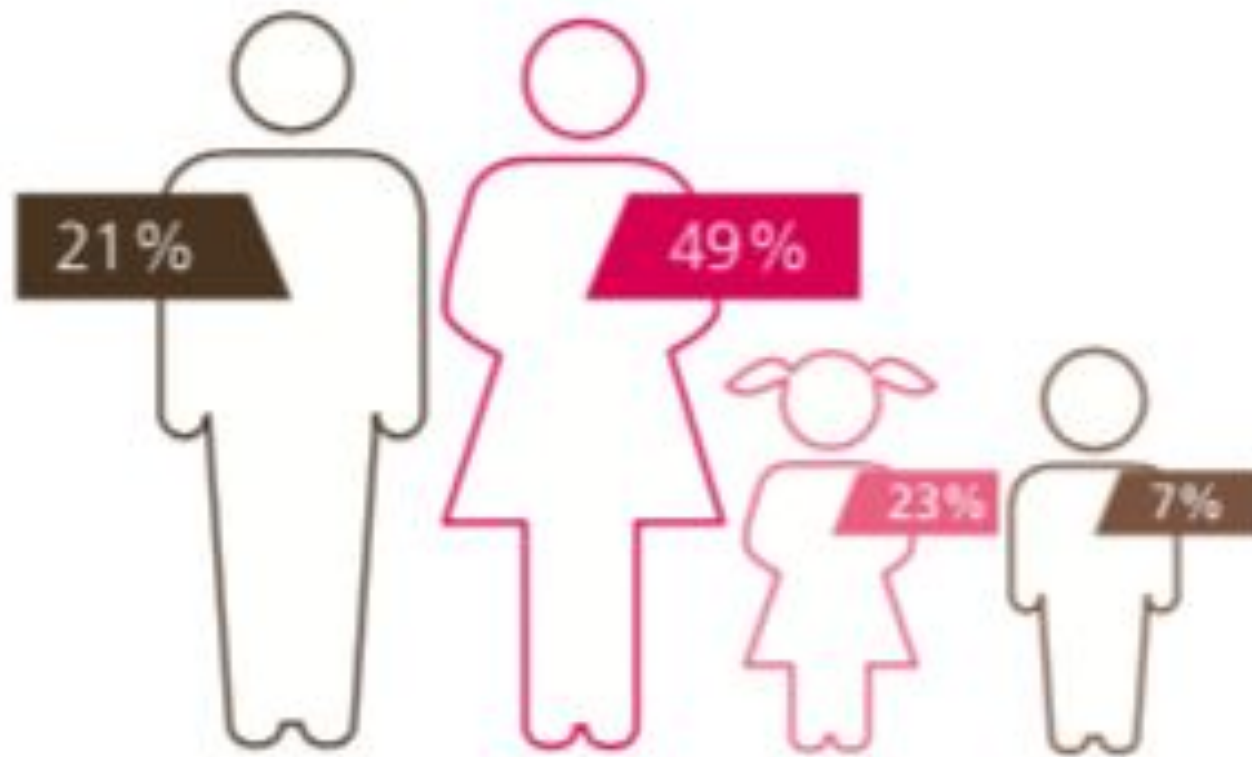
Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## Victim profile

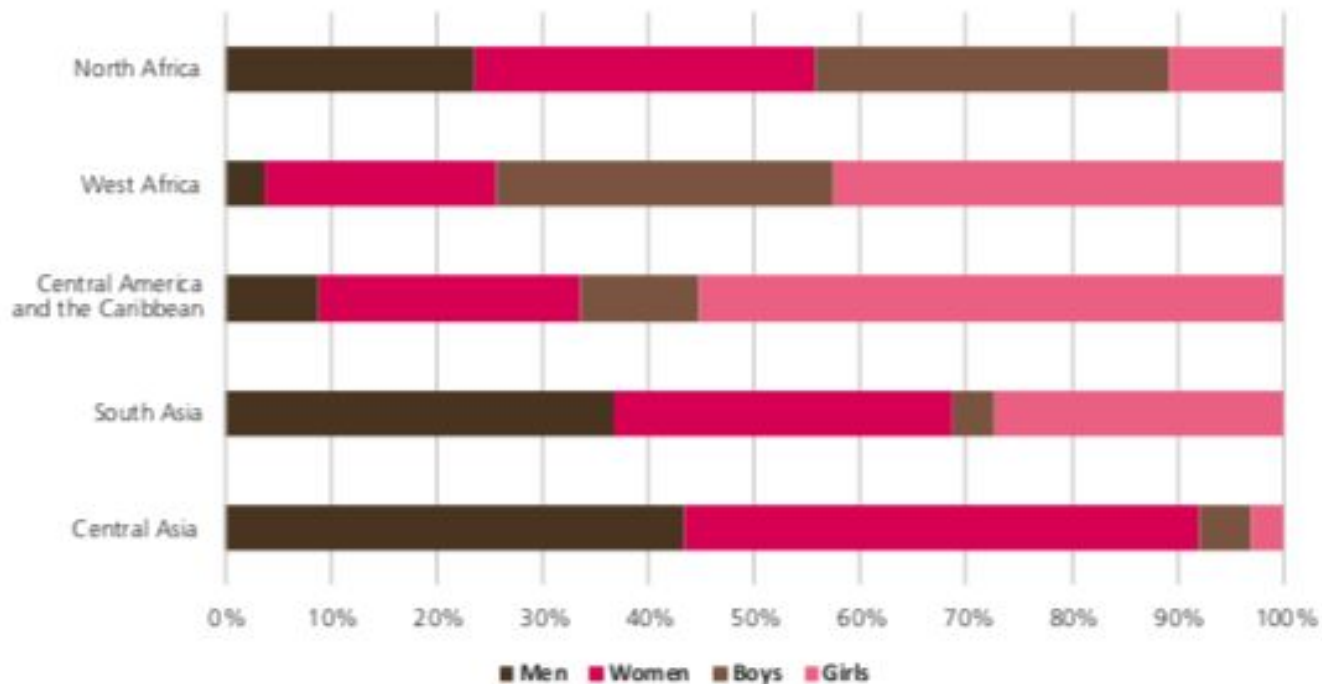
- Most victims are women and girls.
- Regional differences in the sex and age:  
In West Africa most victims are children (boys and girls); in South Asia men, women and children are equally reported; in Central Asia, more male victims than other regions.

## Shares of detected victims of trafficking in persons globally, by age group and sex, 2016 (or most recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

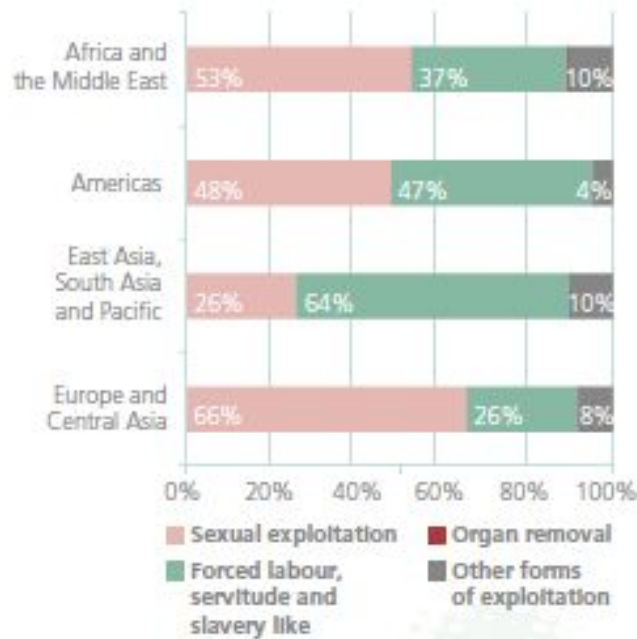
## Shares of detected victims of trafficking in persons in subregions recording diverse patterns, 2016 (or most recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

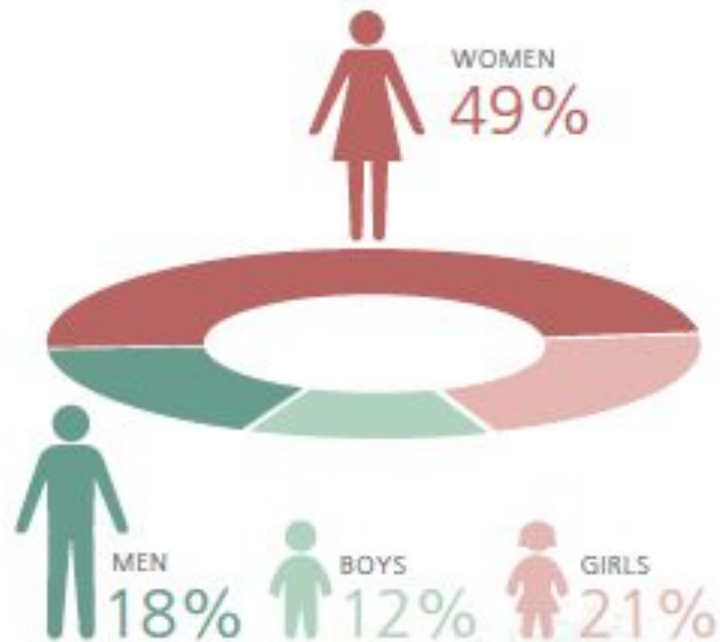
# “Global report on trafficking in persons”, UNODC

Forms of exploitation among detected trafficking victims, by region of detection, 2010-2012 (or more recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration on national data.

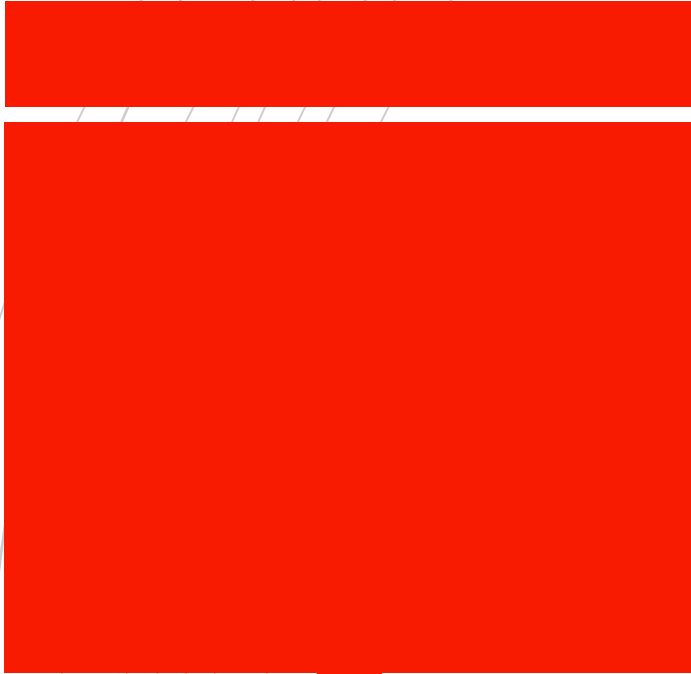
Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by age and gender, 2011



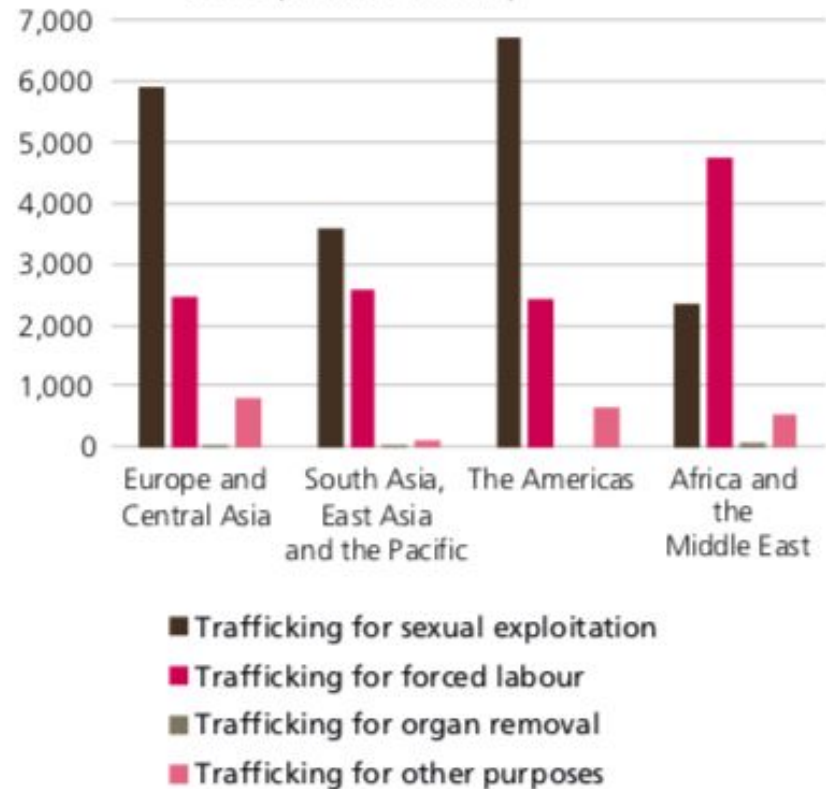
Source: UNODC elaboration on national data.

## Forms of exploitation

- **Most cases reported: sexual exploitation of women and girls;** pattern not consistent across all regions. Prevalent: the Americas, Europe, East Asia and the Pacific.
- **Labour exploitation: prevalent in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East; near-equally detected in Central and South Asia**
- **Organ removal**
- **Other forms of exploitation:**
  - forced begging
  - forced criminality (property crimes, drug trafficking)
  - Sham marriages



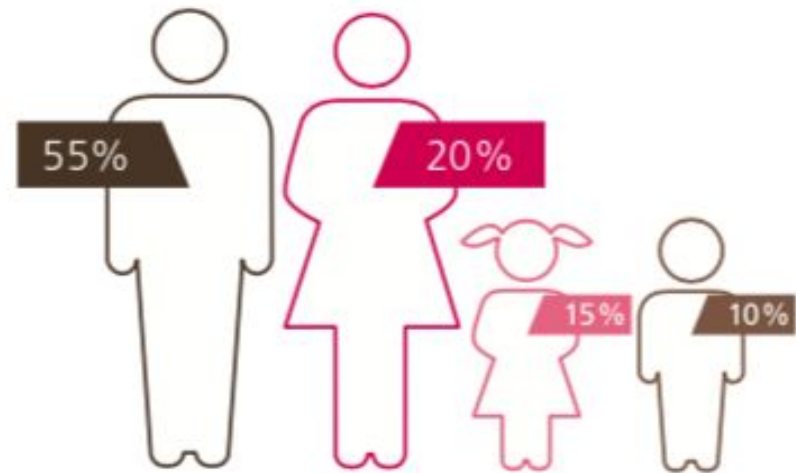
**FIG. 20** Number of detected trafficking victims, by form of exploitation and region of detection, 2016 (or most recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.



**FIG. 22** Share of detected victims of trafficking for forced labour, by age group and sex profiles, 2016 (or most recent)  
54 countries (n=3,408 victims)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.



**FIG. 15** Shares of forms of exploitation among detected women victims of trafficking in persons, 2016 (or most recent)

54 countries (n=5,440 victims)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

**FIG. 16** Share of forms of exploitation among detected men victims of trafficking in persons, 2016 (or most recent)

54 countries (n=2,271 victims)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

**FIG. 17** Share of forms of exploitation among detected girl victims of trafficking in persons, 2016 (or most recent)

54 countries (n=2,350 victims)



**FIG. 18** Share of forms of exploitation among detected boy victims of trafficking in persons, 2016 (or most recent)

54 countries (n=711 victims)



**FIG. 19** Share of forms of exploitation among detected trafficking victims\*, 2016 (or most recent)

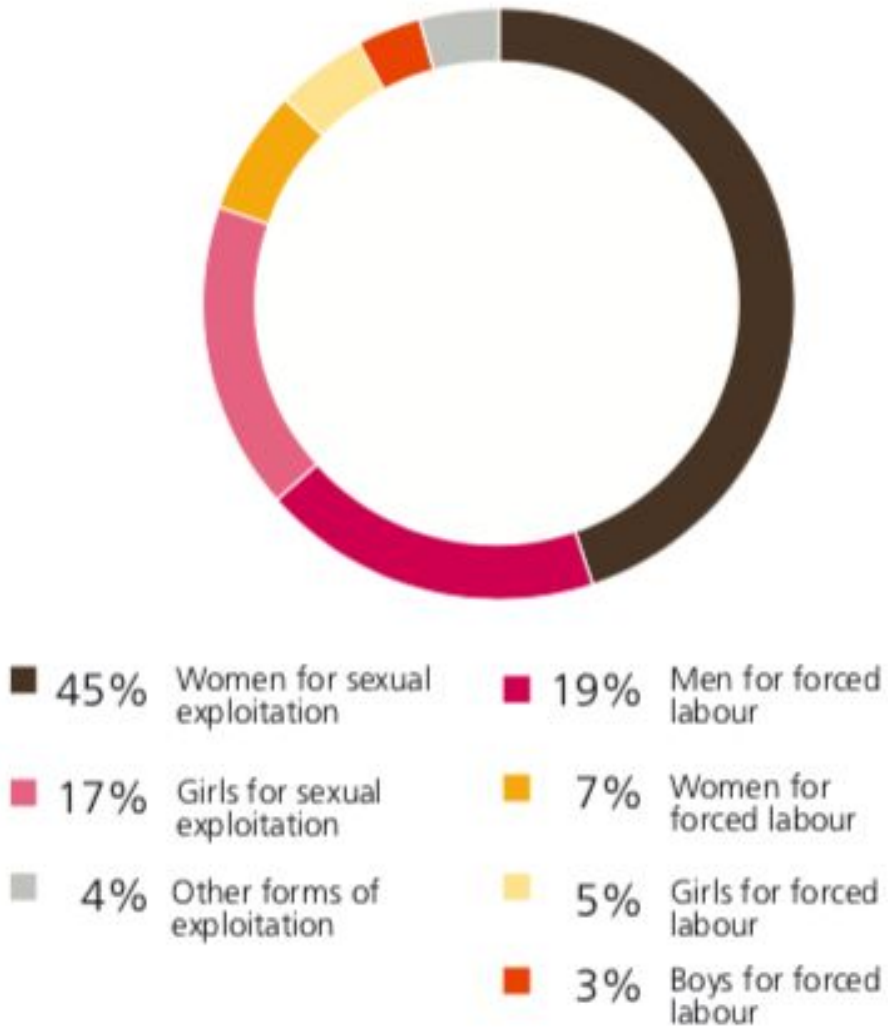


Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

\* Estimates are based on data provided by 110 countries reporting 24,687 detected victims.

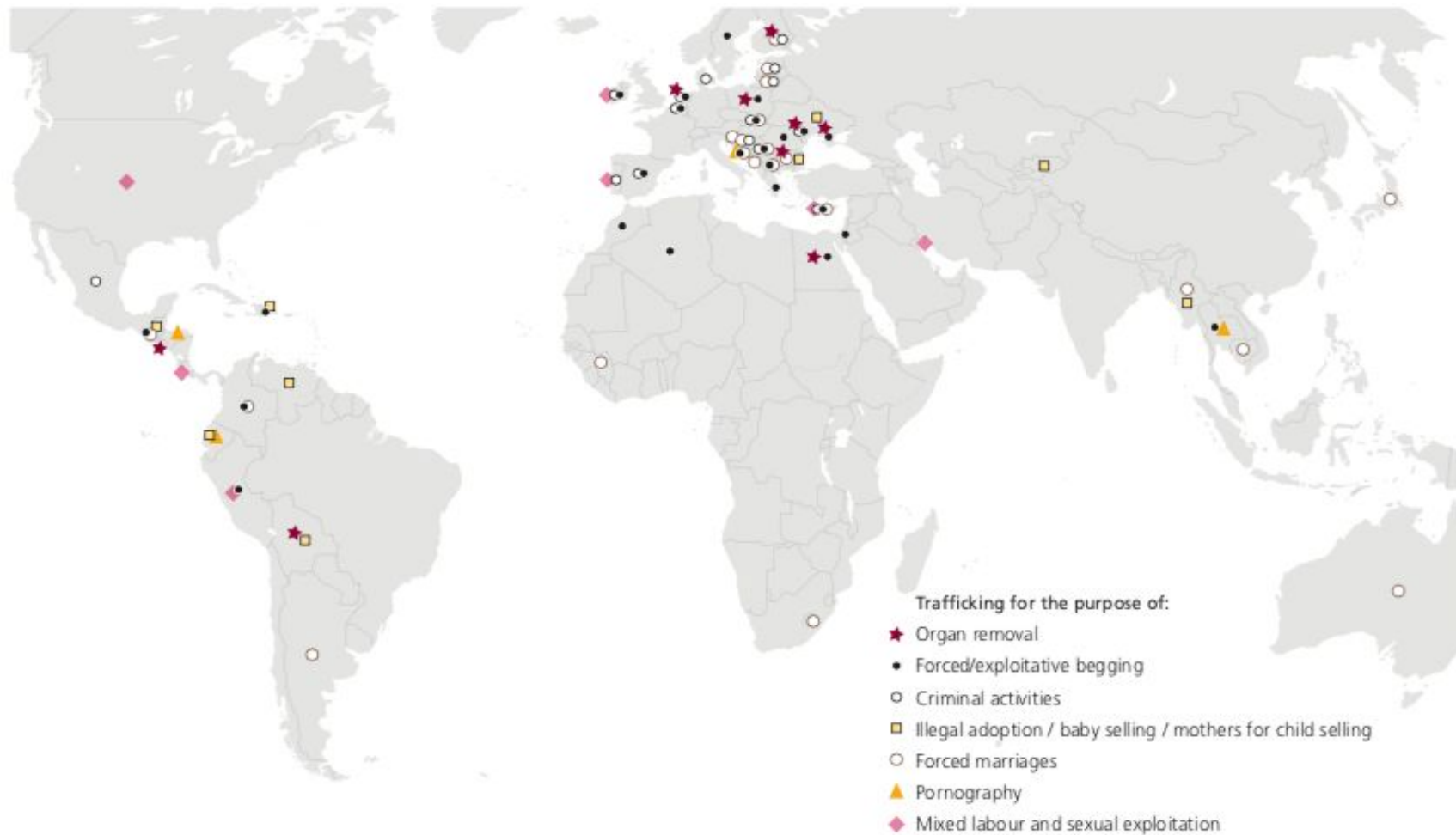
**FIG. 24** Share of detected victims of trafficking, by profile and forms of exploitation, 2016 (or most recent)

54 countries (n=10,772 victims)

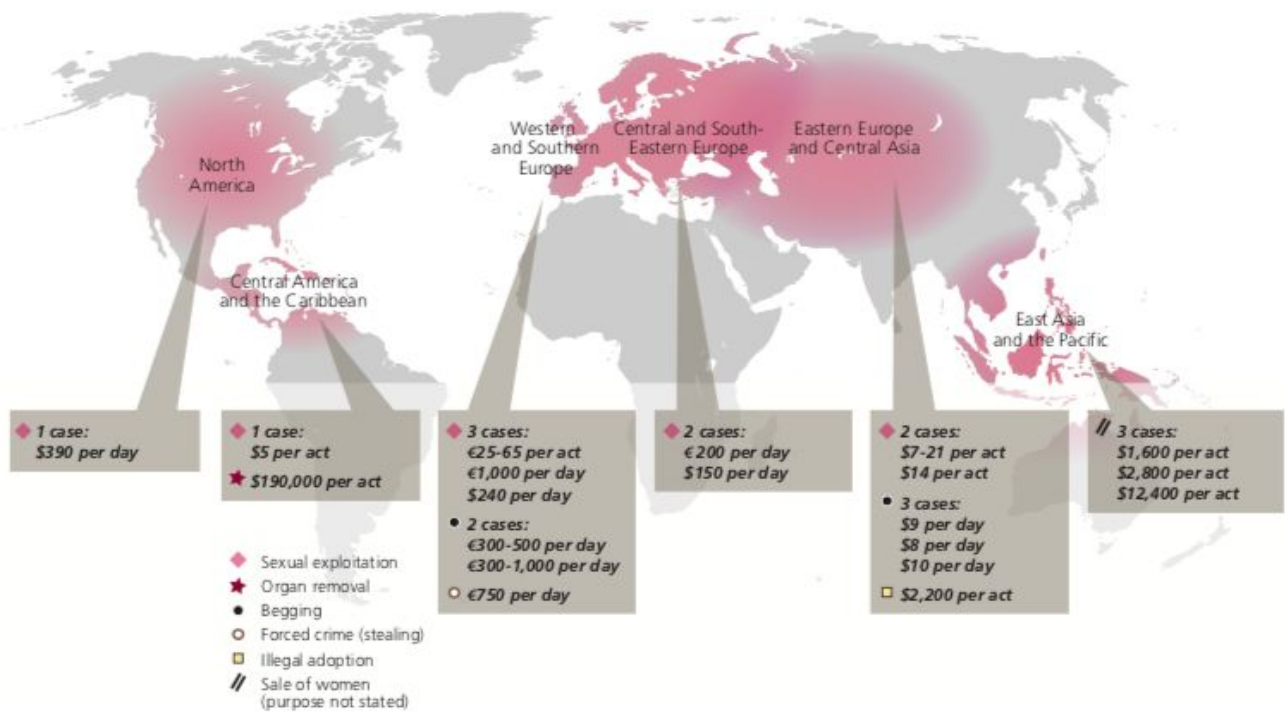


Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

**MAP 4** Countries that report forms of exploitation other than forced labour and sexual exploitation, 2014-2016



**Criminal income earned from the exploitation of trafficking victims, by subregion and by type of exploitation, USD \$ or Euro € per victim per day or per act.**



Source: Based on 17 criminal cases reported by 13 countries to UNODC.

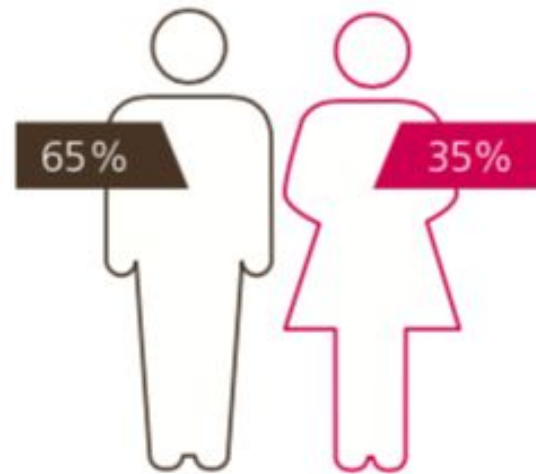
## Profile of the offenders

- Most persons investigated, arrested, prosecuted and convicted are men, but more than 30% are women.
- Regional differences: Eastern Europe, Central, Central America and the Caribbean: more female than males convictions.
- Different roles of male and female traffickers.
- Women traffickers are particularly active in the recruitment phase.





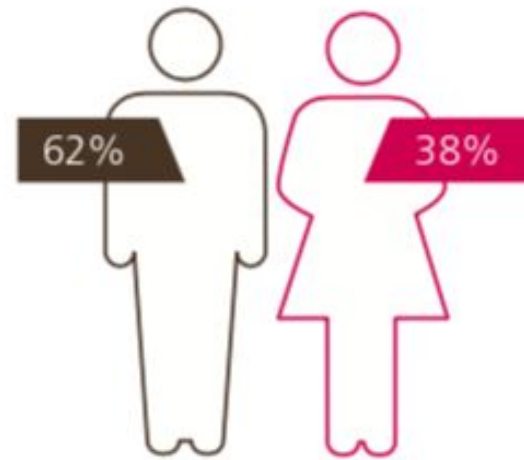
**FIG. 26** Shares of persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons, by sex, 2016 (or most recent)  
68 countries (n=6,370)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.



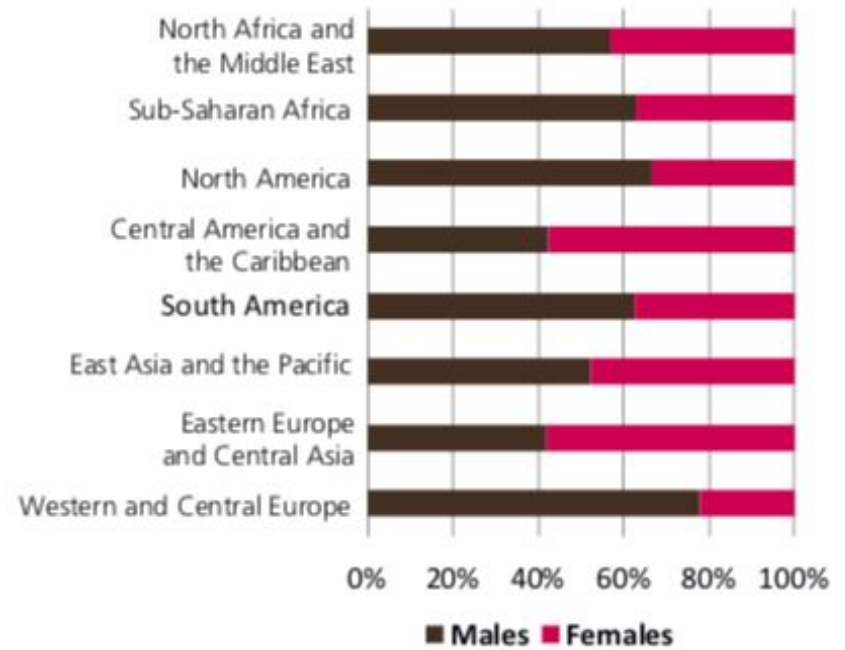
**FIG. 27** Shares of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by sex, 2016 (or most recent)  
58 countries (n=1,565)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

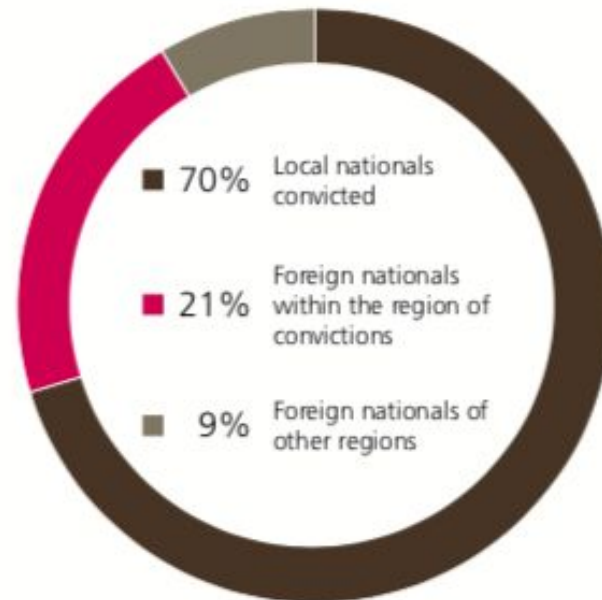


**FIG. 28** Share of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, by sex and subregion, 2016 (or most recent)



**FIG. 35** Shares of national and foreign citizens among convicted traffickers (relative to the country of conviction), 2016 (or most recent)

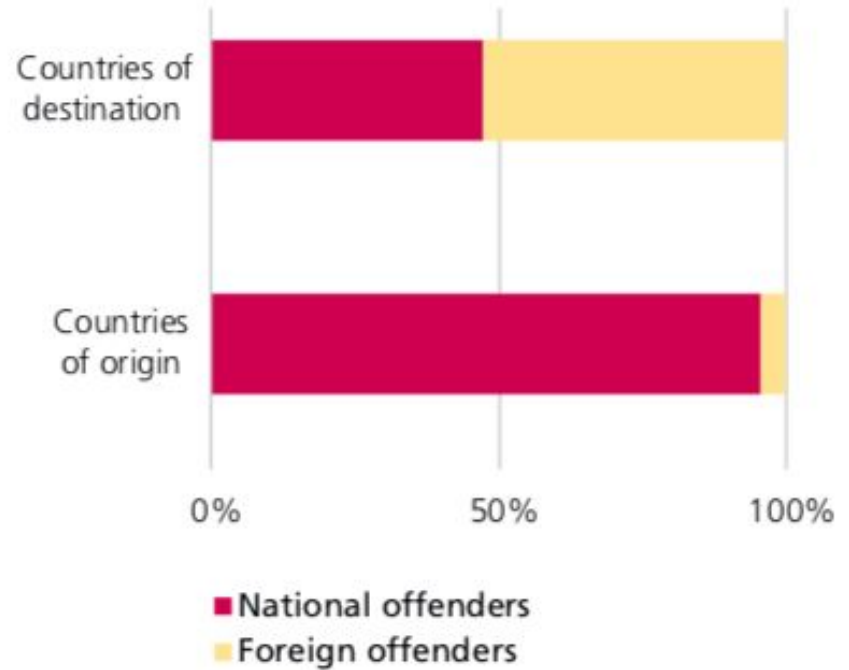
76 countries (n=3,584)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.



**FIG. 36** Shares of national and foreign citizens (relative to the convicting country) among convicted traffickers, by country of origin and destination, 2016 (or most recent)  
24 countries (n=497)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.



- Thank you for your attention
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