

EU Agencies Against Trafficking in Human Beings



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News

On 13 June 2018, ten EU Agencies signed a [Joint Statement](#) committing themselves to working together against trafficking in human beings (THB). The 10 signing agencies are:

- The European Asylum Support Office (EASO);
- The European Police Office (Europol);
- The European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice (eu-LISA);
- The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EM-CDDA);
- The EU Judicial Cooperation Unit (Eurojust);
- The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE);
- The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX);
- The EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA);
- The EU Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL);
- The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound).

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ISSN: 1862-6947

<https://euclid.eu>



According to the statement, the agencies have committed to the following:

- Countering the culture of impunity for perpetrators, abusers, and exploiters;
- Enhancing their focus on prevention, taking into account the entire trafficking chain inside and outside the EU;
- Ensuring a gender-specific and child-sensitive approach when addressing THB;
- Assisting Member States in improving the early identification of victims and ensuring access to and realisation of their rights;
- Addressing the vulnerabilities of victims and ensuring accountability towards them, including in border management;
- Enhancing the effectiveness of investigations and prosecutions, e.g., by setting up Joint Investigation Teams;
- Promoting cross-border and internal law enforcement and judicial cooperation;
- Strengthening training activities, sharing good practices, and capacity building within an appropriate policy context;
- Building on synergies foreseen in relevant EU instruments in specific areas, including with respect to the EU action on drugs;
- Improving information sharing, also via the use of technology, within the limits of data protection rules, proactive financial and intelligence-led investigations, asset recovery, and the freezing and confiscation of profits;
- Implementing and developing large-scale IT systems and leveraging systems interoperability;

- Supporting coherent and effective joint activities with all relevant stakeholders, including labour market intermediaries and recruitment agencies;
- Increasing regional and cross-border cooperation among public authorities and social partners in order to strengthen their commitment to a coordinated, coherent, and comprehensive response to THB.

Furthermore, each agency will appoint a contact point who will participate in meetings organised by the Office of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator. This will ensure an overview of each agency's action in this field and its representation in the relevant fora.

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The project is co-financed by the Union Anti-Fraud Programme (UAFP), managed by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).



**Co-funded by
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