



Report on RENAME activities - November-2016 to October, 2017.

Prepared for Sr. Monica Chickwe attending USMI meeting, 11-13 October, 2017.

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RENATE 2nd European Assembly, Rome 6-12 November, 2016. "Ending Trafficking begins with us."



130 members of the RENATE network gathered together in Rome for their 2nd European Assembly. Representatives from the 27 member countries met for a full week, to share best practice, network, dialogue, forward plan and pray.

Prayer was the fulcrum around which the work of the week rotated, with Live Streaming of Opening and Closing Liturgies available on the RENATE website. Cardinal Turkson presided at the Opening Mass together with Fathers Tadeschi, Roman Lahish CSSR, Algridas Toliatas, Luigi D'Alessandra OFM. Monsignor Cicero presided at the Closing Mass. Each day began with morning Mass, with specific member countries leading the Liturgies on any given day.

From the opening Liturgy through to the final closing ceremonies, participants bonded and built connections. There were opportunities for sharing during the workshops; the Market-place events in the evenings after dinner; during the visit to the Vatican; during the excursions to the shelters and on the Loreto Pilgrimage. Each meal-time was an opportunity to create connections and strengthen the bonds of the Network. Each night, we paused, reflected and prayerfully responded "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening." Full report at www.renate-europe.net

RENATE Strategic Plan, 2016-2021.

Having secured the mandate at the Assembly, the members of the RENATE Core Group and support staff, gathered in Palermo from 15-21 January, 2017, to devise the Strategic Plan. The Plan overlaps with activities from 2016 and extends the work of the network through to 2021.

Structured along three platforms- The Context, The Projects and Impact, the Plan operates on a contextual analysis and inputs, and their application to project activities and outputs, concluding with a consideration of impact in terms of outcomes and contribution to systemic change.

Highlights of the Strategic Plan include the compilation of an on-line library, available to RENATE members; the building of an entire RENATE data-base; a new website build for RENATE, which will enable greater access and connectivity, enabling effective communication of the RENATE mission.

A key feature of the Plan, will be the emphasis on grassroots levels- both in terms of work undertaken and care for Members. Supports available will be through the provision of Retreats, training programmes and cross-cultural experiences, central to consolidation of the network.

RENATE attends the summer session of the Council of Europe Conference of INGOs, 26-30 June, 2017.

RENATE Core Group member, Marie H el ene Halligon, RGS, shares with us an update on the news from the recent CoE meetings in June, at which Marie H el ene represented RENATE, through the invitation of our Andante colleagues.

Among the many varied debates organised during the week, some of the highlights were:



- A Side event organised in co-operation with PACE Committee on Equality and non-discrimination: [“Women’s mobilization in Europe 2016: What impact on policies?”](#);
- A debate/training session [“How to fight against discrimination and hate speech in the post-truth era”](#)
- A debate on the “populist wave in Europe” on the basis of the Secretary General’s latest report
- The situation of NGOs in member States with reports from the visits led by the President of the Conference to [Hungary](#) and [Ireland](#) and the meetings held with NGOs from Cyprus and Turkey
- The Conference adopted a [Recommendation “Human Rights and Business”](#) encouraging members States to implement the actions recommended in [Committee of Ministers Recommendation \(2016\)3](#)

Further information at www.renate-europe.net

Sr. Elda Nikilli, SGA, shares her experiences of raising awareness about Human Trafficking in Elbasan, Albania.



On the 20 of March 2017, Sr. Elda shared some time with the students

of Our Lady of Good Council school in Elbasan to inform the students about the reality of Human Trafficking. Through simple brainstorming and questioning, Sr. Elda was able to establish what the students already knew about Human Trafficking. The students seemed to be aware of trafficking into the sex industry and trafficked children for organs. The sad part for Sr. Elda, was that very few of the students thought about the causes, the supply and demand. From her conversations with the students, Sr. Elda discovered a mentality exists which supports the view that girls and the poor are intended for human trafficking, to be sold and bought as commodities. More at www.renate-europe.net

RENATE member, Sr. Begoña Iñarra, shares her presentation to the round-table discussions at the U.N. on the interconnectedness of migration and human trafficking.

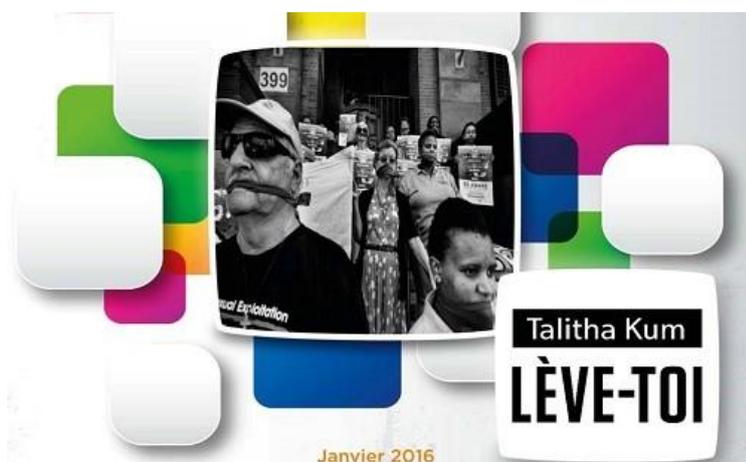


In her presentation, Begoña spoke about the migration journey and plight of Nigerian women trafficked into prostitution in France; the distinction between ‘smuggling’ and ‘human trafficking’; the complexities encountered when human trafficking is viewed as a transnational crime instead of being viewed as exploitation of victims; the successes and failures encountered so far by RENATE-France and associated organisations in their efforts to support victims

and survivors. Begoña emphasised the need for migration policies throughout the EU to adapt and include the concept of *Protection* when addressing Human Trafficking.

For more: <https://renatefrance.wordpress.com/2017/05/17/migration-des-victimes-de-la-traite-humaine/>

RENATE members avail of Continuous Professional Development opportunities.



The Talitha Kum Strategic Plan 2015-2018, provides for the creation of courses for the qualification of Talitha Kum members in the service of leadership.

RENATE members look forward to availing of such professional development. Of particular interest is the proposed course

on Leadership, which will provide tools to enhance the skills that will support leaders in developing professional and relational skills, aimed at collaborating and managing activities.

Full details: <http://www.antonianum.eu/it/attivita/5030/Training-Course-for-Talitha-Kums-Leader>

Additional programmes attended by RENATE members included the course “Training on Sales Psychology in NGOs: Selling between Mission and Marketing,” conducted by the **ERSTE Foundation**, aimed at members from eastern European countries specifically.

Participants were required to present a final report at the end of the course. This was particularly helpful to the participants as they focused on their own specific situations and collaborated with others on the course, in order to gain the benefits from sharing of best practice and networking.

U.N Gift Box Campaigns- Albania and Ireland.



U.N. Gift Box Campaign – Tirana, Albania,

The U.N. GiftBox Anti-Human Trafficking Campaign took place again this year in Albania, from 30th of May to 1st of June. (09.00 a.m. – 12.00 a.m.). The Campaign was run in cooperation with the URAT Network and Minister of Interior, Albania.

The purpose of the campaign was to raise awareness amongst the Albanian population about the dangers of Human Trafficking. The campaign also sought to help vulnerable communities protect themselves from the traffickers and to better understand the ways in which survivors of trafficking are helped to re-integrate into society.

This year's UN.GIFT Box awareness campaign in Tirana concluded on the 1st of June, having been attended by the youngest audience in its history during its time in Albania. The GiftBox was visited by more than one hundred young people, mostly high-school and middle school children. Focusing on the Children's Day celebrations, *Different but Equal* (members of the URAT network) organised a Flash Mob Dance, which was hugely successful in bringing attention to the topic of human trafficking. A very positive atmosphere surrounded the campaign which concluded on a high note with the GiftBox filled with notes against trafficking and boys and girls wearing T-shirts holding the referral phone number.

UN GiftBox Campaign touching hearts and minds in Ireland.



During March, APT Ireland (Act to Prevent Trafficking) together with the Loreto Congregation, are bringing the UNGiftBox to a number of cities throughout Ireland.

They are encouraged by the numbers of the general public, whose hearts and minds have been touched by the Campaign.

Government of Ireland Tainaiste and Minister for Justice and Equality, made time to visit the Campaign and wished the team of volunteers every success with the Campaign. The Campaign has featured on the national news RTE Six-One, on the 6th of March and continues to make news at local and regional levels as it travels around Ireland until the end of the month.

For more, please see www.aptireland.org

CARITAS Slovakia and *STOP Human Trafficking!* attend the POHODA festival and raise awareness about Human Trafficking- risks and prevention.



This year, **STOP Human Trafficking** again attended POHODA, the largest Slovak multi-genre festival, from the 6th to the 8th of July and counted about 30 thousands participants in attendance. Together with other NGOs, Caritas Slovakia showcased projects which are underway around the world, as well as in Slovakia. The **STOP Human Trafficking** project was one of the main themes which people were impressed with.

The concept was to show two figurines - one representing a victim of human trafficking, exploited for the purpose of forced prostitution and the other figurine dressed as a woman of Islamic belief. These two figurines symbolised the extent of the range of our charity services, regardless of client's faith, race or appearance. Many young people stopped by, had a talk with the representatives and showed their interest and support for the work.

Jana Urbanova, CARITAS Slovakia STOP Human Trafficking Preventions Campaign Coordinator, shared that they evaluated this experience as time of mutual inspiration and are already looking forward to the next year's festival



Fashion and/as a waste" - how to give new life to clothes as well as to people – clients of Caritas, especially victims of human trafficking.

On the 20th August last, the STOP Human Trafficking project organised its 2nd awareness-raising event in Caritas' beautiful gardens at the heart of the old city of Bratislava.

Once again the event began with an unconventional fashion show which was followed by an auction.

Caritas' employees and volunteers of all sizes and ages, modeled 16 outfits which were created

from clothes and accessories donated to the Caritas' *Warehouse of Solidarity.*'

Mgr Jana Urbanova, STOP Human Trafficking Prevention Campaigns Coordinator, has compiled an interesting report on this year's fashion show, available at www.renate-europe.net

Pictures of the event are available at:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/CaritasSlovakiaSKCH/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1230673710370939



RENATE Training on *Migration and Human Trafficking*.

Venue: the Soeterbeeck Conference Centre, Ravenstein, The Netherlands.

19-25 March 2017.



Thirty RENATE members gathered at the Soeterbeeck Conference Centre, a former convent which has been sympathetically revived as a modern and beautiful meeting space. RENATE members learned about the work underway in the Netherlands in relation to human trafficking prevention, exploitation and supports to migrants.

Theological underpinnings for the week centred on *Laudato Si* as an encyclical of interconnectedness, offering a broader, expansive world view in which to situate our work. It was a week of intense experiential learning, with themes covered during the week such as the challenges to create safe Passage for Migrants; Safe Return and Safe Future for repatriated survivors of human trafficking; The IOM and Assisted Voluntary Return programme; The World Wide Tools Project gave an insight into crafts people sharing their skills with survivors of Human Trafficking. Particularly challenging was the concept of Forgiveness- its healing and restorative powers.

Full report at www.renate-europe.net

RENATE Mapping Exercise- Research into Child Trafficking amongst some RENATE member States.

In accordance with its Strategic Plan, 2016-2021, RENATE is conducting research into the extent of Child Trafficking in the following RENATE member countries: Albania, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Slovakia, the Netherlands and the Ukraine.

Dr. Carrie Pemberton Ford, of the CCARHT Department at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom, is currently writing up the research with a view to its conclusion by November, 2017, where it is planned that a report on the research findings will be presented to the RENATE Annual Working Board.

RENATE Training on Trauma associated with Human Trafficking.

29 April- 4 May, 2018, in Germany.

A working-group of RENATE members are compiling the content of the next round of training for RENATE members, to take place in Germany in spring, 2018. It is planned to have a variety of inputs on topics ranging from an understanding of trauma; how to work with traumatized victims of trafficking through to practical considerations of how to avoid burnout. There will be first-hand input from practitioners in the field and the training will be interactive, with opportunities for sharing best practice. Throughout, there will be an emphasis on the spiritual and theological dimensions to the work of counselling with victims.

More information will be disseminated early in the New Year.



Anti-Human Trafficking workshop at the NJPN annual Conference, 21-23 July- in Derbyshire, the UK.

The Annual Conference of the National Justice and Peace Network of England and Wales, took place on 21-23 July at the Hayes Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire, UK. This year's theme was "A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor: The Challenge of Pope Francis."

Amongst the workshops conducted at the Conference, was a workshop on Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking, conducted by a RENATE member living and working in the UK.



RENATE's preparations for the Annual meeting of the Working Board- Malta, 6-11 November, 2017.

Work is being finalised by the RENATE Core Group, in preparation for the Annual meeting of the Working Board.

It is customary for a RENATE member to host the Working Board meeting, assisted by the Core Group.

Each Working Board meeting affords the members an opportunity to review and reflect on the work of the past year and plan for the work of the year ahead.

This year's meeting will be informed by the Strategic Plan 2016-2021, with key priorities identified and discussed in preparation for implementation in the year ahead.

The Working Board meetings are also an opportunity to network and build capacity in supporting each other and the respective communities as they work together in the fight against human trafficking and exploitation. A full report will be available in December.

Training for RENATE members and MWL staff on *Protection and Safeguarding*- provided by ECPAT.

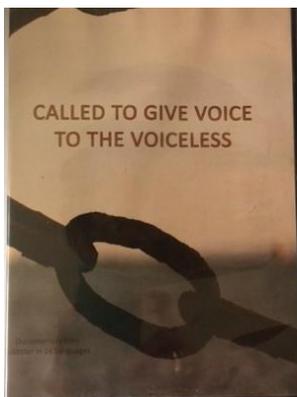


On both the 6th and 20th of September, 2017, RENATE members and Mary Ward Loreto staff in Albania, participated in a multi-disciplinary training programme, to devise a Protection and Safeguarding Protocol. The protocol will inform all activities related to working with Adults and Vulnerable Children and is designed to safeguard all parties concerned.

In addition to devising the Protocol, the training provided everyone with the opportunity to understand roles and responsibilities and the inter-dependence necessary for successful safeguarding practices.

For more, please see www.albaniahope.com

Screenings of RENATE film *Called to give Voice to the Voiceless*.



Called to Give Voice to the Voiceless is a documentary film produced for RENATE by the Conference of Major Superiors of Women Religious in Slovakia.

Comprising a number of scenarios which look at the realities of poverty which drive people into looking for alternative and risky employment- and heightens their risk of human trafficking- through to a scenario with RENATE members working to support women who are trying to escape labour exploitation and prostitution, the video carries subtitles in 14 languages and is a first-hand resource to all who wish to raise awareness about the crime of human trafficking.

RENAME members have deployed the video as a resource when presenting to communities, schools and wider audiences, in order to raise awareness and help bring an end to human trafficking.

Log on to www.renate-europe.net to view a clip from the video, on the RENATE Homepage.

RENATE attends 9th meeting of the E.U. Civil Society Platform against trafficking in Human Beings.

Organised by the European Commission in Brussels, the Civil Society Platform is a forum for Civil Society organisations can meet and progress the development of the E.U. Strategy Towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings. RENATE attends the Platform through its member, Mr. Gazmir Memaj, representing RENATE and the Mary Ward Loreto Foundation, Albania.

Recognised as playing a key role in the work against human trafficking, the member organisations present contributed to policy formation related to prevention; protection of victims; prosecution of traffickers and how to address the entire phenomenon of Trafficking. The entire relevance to the work of RENATE was seen not only in the overall focus on working to combat human trafficking, but also in the following workshop themes available:

Access to assistance, support and protection;

Access to remedies, non-punishment and compensation;

Focused action to combat violence against women.

Prepared by Anne Kelleher, RENATE Communications.

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