



RENA TE ANNUAL REPORT January – September 2015



“We ought to recognize that we are facing a global phenomenon which exceeds the competence of any one community or country. In order to eliminate it, we need a mobilization comparable in size to that of the phenomenon itself.”

NO LONGER SLAVES, BUT BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Pope Francis, 1 January 2015

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation (RENATE) has been challenged across Europe during these past ten months due to the phenomenal increase of migration across the world. This has been particularly painful for thousands of refugees crossing the Mediterranean. This has had an impact on the work at the local level. Nearly all members have been faced with the growing need to care for the migrant. It is in these chaotic situations of poverty and dislocation that the traffickers ply their trade in a most cruel manner, making the most of vulnerable peoples.

The mission of RENATE over these months has encompassed the work of training forty members in the rescue and rehabilitation of victims. This took place in Madrid, Spain. It was a challenging week as we faced the horror of cross-border trafficking amongst people trying to escape war and in particular the poverty of the North African desert and of Morocco. We also were engaged in a mapping exercise led by Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB, a member of our core group. The research was conducted in 13 countries in which RENATE members are working at the grassroots level. This research included a comment on the European situation in general and recommendations for RENATE into the future. It was completed in September and we are happy to say that it is now uploaded for public reading on the RENATE website, www.renate-europe.net. Another great piece of work is the RENATE film, almost accomplished during this reporting period, by the film-maker, Sr. Ivica Kúšiková. She has worked tirelessly in many countries to capture the work and the issues around the impact of this modern day slavery.

It was good to welcome members of the RENATE Board to Albania this year and much important work was covered in the unfolding of the action plan and the process for the implementation of this plan. It was good to welcome members from new countries who have not long become members of RENATE. These included members from Hungary and Malta. We hope to welcome a new member from the Ukraine at the next meeting and maybe new members from the Nordic countries.

Campaigns are on-going in every place where we are working. Many of these campaigns and works of advocacy have been recorded on the website by the members and synthesised by the very proactive work of our communications person, Anne Kelleher. The secretary and website person for RENATE, Aneta Grabowska has worked closely with Mrs Anne Kelleher, to ensure that the website is updated and captures the events, issues and campaigns of the day. We are grateful to them for their tireless work. The website is now an important resource for the thousand plus regular monthly visitors. We are also pleased that we have the resources to support members in their work through emergency funding, for care of members and for on-going professional development.

16 October 2015 – Ahead of the 9th EU Anti-Trafficking Day (18 October), the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) has warned about the increased risk of human trafficking posed by the current refugee crisis and the urgent need to address the particular vulnerability of unaccompanied children and minors. RENATE is staying alert to these facts and it is hoped that in this report and by engaging in issues raised in the newly completed RENATE Mapping Exercise, there will be a growing understanding as to how the membership of RENATE is engaging, at grass roots, in some of the present day realities. These realities have led to an increase in the number of vulnerable victims being trafficked every minute on the streets of Europe.

Imelda Poole IBVM, President of RENATE

2. BACKGROUND

RENATE was established in 2009 by a group of religious representing several different Congregations working against Human Trafficking in Europe. In 2007 USMI (Union of Major Religious Superiors in Italy), invited Religious from all over the world to come together to discuss the phenomenon of trafficking and to adopt a way forward for religious in combating this evil. This group, called INRATIP, made the choice to work together to form another international body under the umbrella of UISG (Union of International Female Superiors General). In 2009 this dream was realised and the international group of religious called TALITHA KUM was established. At this gathering some of the members of TALITHA KUM, from Europe, realised that there was no network of religious for Europe. A decision was made to call together sisters from congregations working in Europe who would be interested in establishing such a network. The first gathering of Sisters from Europe took place in The Netherlands at the administration base of SRTV, courtesy of the Dutch religious who founded this organisation.

At this meeting, RENATE (*Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation*) was conceived. RENATE is grateful to SRTV for enabling these first meetings to be realised. This first group, of fifteen sisters and a core group of six sisters, plus the two workers employed by SRTV, established RENATE on a legal footing, with financial support by 2010. The mandate for this initial group was to call a conference to launch RENATE, and to invite Religious from Eastern, Central and Western Europe. This conference was realised in Trzebinia/Poland in September 2011, at which RENATE was launched as a Network.

3. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of RENATE is to respond, in the light of Gospel values, to the issue of the trafficking in human persons. The main goal will be accomplished by implementing the specific objectives of RENATE which include:

- *Development of awareness-raising activities against HT and the growing demand for this within all levels of society in Europe, using all forms of modern technology and communications.*
- *Networking and sharing resources, skills, and knowledge.*
- *Research and implementation actions against the growing demand for such abuse in the countries of origin and destination.*
- *Working, where possible, against the root causes of Human Trafficking.*

The above is the subject for this review, referred to as the OUTCOMES chapter of this report.

4. METHODOLOGY

RENATE has developed a methodology of work which includes a high level of networking processes amongst the members using modern technology and clear communication. This enables resources to be shared and an implementation of the plan of action to be successfully accomplished at every stage. The work itself includes awareness-raising across Europe through the collaboration of the many members of RENATE. This action is directed to eliminating, where possible, the crime of human trafficking taking place in our world today.

This particular work, undertaken by the members, involves many creative initiatives across Europe in the field of prevention as well as protection for the most vulnerable and in isolated regions, sustaining many innovative projects. The members are also engaged in direct action with the victims of trafficking. Members work in shelters, refugee services, re-integration centres and on the streets where the victims are being used by pimps and need to be rescued. Finally the methodology of the Network includes advocacy and research. In this work amongst the membership are some conducting PhD level research in the field of anti-trafficking and who collaborate with RENATE in this work.

In response to the interest of the donors, RENATE undertook to conduct a mapping exercise of the work against trafficking across Europe. Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB, led RENATE on this initiative, working with a dynamic and active team across Europe. RENATE is also aware, through the use of the website, and the communications person, that it can be a key actor in the field of advocacy worldwide. Through the individual members, advocacy is taking place each day at the local level. RENATE is aware of the intensity of the work and therefore a key element for its work is also the care of the workers. This due care of workers is included as an integral part of the plan of action and methodology. There is also the need for assessment and evaluation of the work, for ensuring the on-going work of the future until this crime has disappeared. Fund raising is an important aspect of the work in order to raise awareness of the needs. Both Congregations in Europe and funding bodies respond to this work.

List of specific means and methods used by RENATE to conduct its work:

- Monthly conference calls via Skype with the RENATE Core Group, followed by a written feedback from the Secretary
- Ad hoc conference calls via Skype when an urgent need requires immediate action
- An annual meeting of the RENATE Working Board with representatives from eighteen European Countries, followed by a written report of the Minutes of the meeting from the Secretary
- An annual training programme for RENATE members on a specific subject related to anti-trafficking, followed by a written report of the training from the Communications Person
- An annual meeting of RENATE Core Group to consider long-term plans and a chance to liaise with each other in more ‘informal’ settings
- Exchange of information by email, mobile phones
- Cross-cultural visits for capacity building
- Publishing of latest news, projects and trafficking alerts on the website
- Sharing of source materials, toolkits, ideas for prayer via website
- Using Facebook to inform the followers of RENATE about anti-trafficking actions
- Campaigning using the medium of Facebook as well as the RENATE web
- Issuing of a quarterly newsletter, addressed to a wide audience (circulated not only between the members but also on the website)
- Meeting key people involved in anti-trafficking work who represent the Catholic Church and other relevant actors who influence public opinion
- Raising awareness at different levels of society, from local parishes, schools, to reaching larger groups of interested audiences at universities, at conferences and symposiums and such like events
- Giving the opportunity for members to benefit from intensive English courses when needed, or specialised trainings in the field of Human Trafficking or short respite care for workers
- Offering financial support to RENATE members for local projects
- Mapping of the work against trafficking across Europe.

5. OUTCOMES

Thinking optimistically and hoping that funds will be available, RENATE has aimed to achieve all the tasks which are divided into three sections, i.e.:

- awareness raising,
- networking,
- advocacy and research.

Awareness Raising involves all activities which enable society to become familiar with human trafficking and its exploitative methods. This awareness-raising includes website development and campaigns.

Networking is essential to make RENATE stronger in its mission. These include one main training programme each year focusing on a particular area of interest (e.g. social media, catholic social teaching, labour trafficking, intervention and integration of victims of trafficking in human beings, cross-cultural experiences and on-going English language training for members who need it).

Advocacy and Research work takes into account operations required to enable the Network's mission to be visible to other networks and authorities, relevant actors who influence public opinion. It includes also a programme of research for RENATE along with the publishing of tool-kits and resource materials. All three sections are underpinned by *Theological Reflection* which accompanies any action of RENATE. This is key to the way of working within the Network as it maintains a focus on vision and values which are important to RENATE Members.

5.1 AWARENESS RAISING

Communication via Website, Facebook Page & Newsletter

The RENATE website completed two years of its dynamic functioning on the 30 September 2015. It continues to be a platform of communication for the Membership as well as the wider public. This was possible thanks to a positive response not only from Network members who delivered information from their countries, but also as a result of the external interest of other actors (e.g. journalists), who were keen on sharing their texts with RENATE. It helped the Website Manager, Mrs. Aneta Grabowska, to keep the information updated on a regular basis and offer news European-wide regarding projects and activities carried out by the members. The external interest also allowed for the inclusion of worldwide news and videos.

It has to be emphasised that the appointment of a Communications Person for RENATE (June, 2014) brought a significant change and enabled more regular and frequent dialogue with the Membership. Mrs. Anne Kelleher was the author and editor of many articles which were issued on the RENATE website. Alongside there were two other tireless contributors who proofread and finalised each item prior to publishing: Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB and Sr. Imelda Poole, IBVM. Some of the information was shared simultaneously on the RENATE Facebook Page, managed by Mrs. Ana Stakaj.

Subsequent to proposals addressed by the RENATE Working Board in Versailles, in March 2014, the following improvements were implemented:

- the website has more pictures of members (with the agreement of the person as a matter of safety and security), several photo galleries were added
- members are notified by email about new initiatives and articles by the Communications Person, Mrs. Anne Kelleher (e-bulletin – a new way to address novelties).

The RENATE Working Board Meeting in Durrës, in March 2015, was a chance to revisit the Network's website www.renate-europe.net under the careful eye of Mrs. Annie Bannister, Website Developer and consultant from the UK. The stages of enhancing RENATE's internet presence could be easily traced in the presentation, which raised the following points:

- In April 2013 RENATE was not found in searches for keywords, but found when RENATE was searched; no presence on social media
- In March 2015 – significant change, RENATE could be found in searches using various keywords
- Now attracting over 1000 visits to the website each month
- We went from having 12 pages on the website to well over 250
- The website is now accessible on mobile devices – look on Google Analytics as to how many access via mobile
- In April 2013 the website was quick to load, alternative text was used almost everywhere (tells blind users what your images contain), it was very rarely updated, there wasn't much content, it was very rarely visited, no analytics was used
- In March 2015 the website was using WordPress, very high Twitter influence, optimised for sharing, reasonably well linked to sites with more incoming links, analytics used, alternative text used almost everywhere, updated regularly, quite quick to load.

The following key areas were debated about the website by the RENATE Board:

1. Is the website attracting the right type of visitors to it?
2. Has the content of the website got the right focus and have we enough regular suppliers of website content?
3. Should the website be available in different languages to enable it to be visited more extensively than is currently the case?
4. Should the website contain more specific country content?
5. Should the new gallery facility on the website be used differently?
6. Is the Members Only area being utilised fully and should that be changed in any way?

Further development of the website together with its 'member only area' is considered and will follow in accordance with an on-going dialogue to make the website more user-friendly. The planned and prepared update extended the map of countries in the Network. Information compiled from the new locations will feed the new pages.

The RENATE Newsletter had three editions from January until September 2015. This was the job of the Communications Person, Mrs. Anne Kelleher. It is a very successful tool of communication to inform the membership and readers on the activities of the Network. Members who received it by email and non-members who accessed it via the website gave positive feedback about the Newsletter. The fourth issue this year will follow in December before Christmas.

Branding – New Logo

The Core Group, during its January meeting in Malta, looked at the issue of re-branding the logo of RENATE. Sr. Marie Hélène Halligon, RGS asked Sr. Monique Tarabeh, RGS (graphic designer) for ideas and suggestions for a possible new logo for the Network. Sr. Monique prepared five samples which were presented to the Board of RENATE for further discussion. Mrs. Annie Bannister, Website Developer from the UK, presented the possibility of merging the old with the new logo (keeping the original writing and opening the circles which were closed in the old version). The Board voted for a change of the logo and the responsibility was left with the Core Group who supervised further actions.



Hub for RENATE

The idea of a *Hub for RENATE* as a comprehensive portal to gather information about Human Trafficking from all possible sources, was presented for the first time at the Board Meeting in Durrës, in March 2015. Mrs. Annie Bannister, Website Developer from the UK, shared results of her investigation which indicates that at the moment there are only two portals which provide information from this field of interest and none of them is based or concentrated particularly in/on Europe. The Board requested more information and agreed to discuss it further at the next meeting.

5.2 NETWORKING

Internal and External Communication

Communications within RENATE has been shared between the Core Group Members who meet via Skype every month (or more often if the situation requires) together with the Communications Person and the Secretary. Before a decision is taken, the Core Group – of which there were seven – consults together. There are seven members in the Core Group: Sr. Imelda Poole, IBVM, President; France: Sr. Marie Hélène Halligon, RGS; Germany: Sr. Dagmar Plum, MMS and Sr. Gabriela Korn, SSCJ; Netherlands: Mrs. Ivonne van de Kar; Romania: Sr. Adina Balan, CJ, and UK: Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB. Since the Board Meeting in March 2015, Sr. Monica Chikwe, SOM, continued joining Skype calls as an ad hoc member of the Core Group. This is due to the preparations for the RENATE Assembly in Rome, in November 2016. Sr. Monica agreed to host this important gathering of the Network's Membership. During the time of writing the Annual Report for RENATE, Sr. Patricia Mulhall has needed to resign from the core group and working Board because of ill health. She will be greatly missed for her active presence and wisdom and we thank her for the invaluable contribution she has made to RENATE over this reporting period. The core group at their recent meeting unanimously voted Mrs. Ana Stakaj (Albania), as the replacement on the core group for Patricia Mulhall CSB. Mrs Ana Stakaj will be the second person from East Europe on the core group of RENATE.

By the end of September 2015, there were 22 persons on the Working Board of RENATE including the seven listed above who form the Core Group. They are: Belgium: Sr. Andrea Tillmanns; Bulgaria: Mrs. Joana Terzieva; Croatia: Sr. Viktorija Šimić; Czech Republic: Sr. Klára Marie Stráníková; Hungary: Sr. Gabriella Légrádi; Ireland: Sr. Eilís Coe; Italy: Sr. Monica Chikwe; Lithuania: Mrs. Kristina Mišiniienė; Malta: Sr. Margaret Gonzi; Poland: Sr. Joanna Lipowska; Slovakia: Sr. Bohdana Bezáková; Spain: Sr. Justa del Sol Hernando and Sr. Pilar Casas Navarro; United Kingdom: Sr. Marie Power.

Mrs. Aneta Grabowska carries out the varied secretarial duties for the Network along with managing the Web. She initiates conference calls, writes reports and minutes of the Core Group and Working Group meetings as well as circulating them. She manages official email addresses of the Network. Her role also extends to Website Management and the on-going update of www.renate-europe.net (including both public and private domains). She co-ordinates requests which arrive via website contact forms under supervision of the President. When required, she supports the logistics and the organisation of meetings. Communication within the Membership of RENATE as well as outside the Network is the role of the Communications Person, Mrs. Anne Kelleher. She is the editor of the RENATE Newsletter, responsible for preparing and advising on materials in support of RENATE's awareness raising and campaigning, writing and editing print and online articles, stories and case studies to highlight the situation of Human Trafficking across Europe and the world.

Cross Cultural Experience for Capacity Building of Members

RENATE meetings that take place in a different European country each, afford the members a chance to get to know new surroundings, experience a different culture, and understand new ways of working in the field of anti trafficking, while supporting the sisters and co-workers in the host country to extend RENATE's mission. Every gathering organised by RENATE is an enriching experience for all participants.

In 2015, the Working Board Meeting took place in Durrës, Albania. This meeting was a unique opportunity to learn more about the situation of human trafficking in the country. The cross-cultural process was enhanced by the presence of visiting speakers: Ep. George Frendo OP, Bishop of Tirana; Father Giovanni Peragine CCRSP, President of UCESM; Dr. Elona Gjebrea, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs in Albania; Mrs. Edlira Gjoni, journalist and Mrs. Mariana Meshi, Director of Different&Equal. All five guests presented Albania in the context of their particular work. An aspect of this inculturation process was a trip to Tirana and into the north of Albania to Shkodra and Hot I Ri. The Participants were given the opportunity to visit various NGOs working against Trafficking, including: Different&Equal, Mary Ward Loreto and SHKEJ.

A second visit to a different country included a Training session in Spain. The title for this training was: *Intervention and Integration of Victims of Trafficking in Human beings for Sexual Exploitation*, and took place from 31 May – 5 June. It was a challenging training which included speakers who were working at grassroots on the border of Morocco and Spain. We heard of the vulnerability of women on these borders who, as refugees were treated very badly and often raped as they waited for weeks to cross the border. We also went to visit and learn from the workers from *Amaranta Fundación de Solidaridad* who work tirelessly to protect and advocate for victims in Spain. The president of this Foundation is on the Board of RENATE. It also included the 'cultural' tour of the city of Avila which was a particularly special visit at this time when the feast falls in the year of the 500th Anniversary of St. Teresa of Jesus. Further information on the training session is described in a later chapter in this report.

Apart from yearly events such as the board meeting or training, individual members of RENATE are encouraged to experience cross-border realities and to learn from each other. In 2015 one destination was explored specifically for possibilities of networking and collaboration in Ukraine. Sr. Bohdana Bezáková accepted the President's request and visited this new European location for RENATE. Sr. Bohdana had a chance to liaise with Sr. Valentyna Ryabushko, Congregation of Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent de Paul (Byzantine rite). She was introduced to the Conference of Female Religious of the Greek Catholic Church, very active in the Ukraine.



Sr. Bohdana Bezáková, CJ with Church representatives in the Ukraine

Sr. Bohdana experienced uncertainty among the people, a result of the death of many and an unpredictable future. The state of war increases the risk of people being trafficked. Therefore it is necessary to raise awareness and work there. As a requirement of the situation, there is a huge need for trauma therapy. Many experts from the US and Italy come to train new specialists in it. Bohdana met psychologists and authors of brochures in trauma therapy, who are interested in co-operating. They want to use campaigns and information about human trafficking. They want to be active. Sr. Bohdana's visit resulted in establishing new contacts with potential members of the Network. A comprehensive report from this visit was published on the website on 6th October, 2015.

Extension of Membership

The Working Board of RENATE agreed that it is important to include all the European countries in the Network. Following this resolution, in 2015, RENATE gained new members from the states which were not represented before, i.e.: Hungary, Malta and Ukraine. A number of members from the locations which are already active in RENATE were welcomed in 2015 (Albania, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Lithuania, UK). By the end of September 2015 RENATE had 137 members. Further work will continue to find persons in those European countries not yet represented in the Network.

Training on Intervention & Integration of VoTHB in Madrid, Spain

Following the Action Plan of 2015, RENATE organised Training on Intervention & Integration of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings in Spain. Thirty-two women religious and co-workers, representing twelve European countries, gathered for this event at the Congregation of the Adorers in Madrid, 31 May – 5 June. Sr. Pilar Casas Navarro, AASC, and her team from Amaranta Fundación de Solidaridad, prepared the training programme for the week. They invited experts who led the group through particular topics: Mrs. Helena Maleno Garzón, Mrs. Marta González Manchon, Mrs. Angela Sánchez-Barbudo Virgil-Escalera, Mr. Antonio Rivas and Mr. Elvis Popaj. Sr. Maria Luiza del Pozo had a session of spiritual reflection. There was also opportunity to meet Fr. José Luis Pinilla, Director of the Ep. Commission for Migration and Fr. Luis Angel de Lasheras, President of CONFER.

This training aimed to make participants understand the process of victims trafficked for sexual exploitation, to fully understand our intervention process with them. The group followed the path

victims have to walk to enter our societies. We continued the process of women from the “origin and experience at borders,” meaning “border” both physical and geographical as the border of rights and the processes of invisibility and the difficulties this entails in their identification.

Participants explored the situation at the border line, with Helena Maleno, an expert, fully committed to Human Rights promotion in Morocco, who accompanied migrants in their ordeal. This encouraged everyone to understand the situation from the other point of view, from the other side of the border. Then the group met Marta González, more than 15 years working at Adoratrices, identifying victims of trafficking all over Spain. We could draw from Marta’s rich experience of interviewing women (almost 1,000 women, victims of trafficking) and listen to testimonies of the fight against all odds.

The training ended with a debate and discussion with Antonio Rivas. Mr. Rivas has been working at the grass-roots level for almost a decade, implementing recovery programs. We tried to understand and question what “integration” is all about. The “Intervention Model” proposed by Amaranta Foundation of the Adorers, was our frame-work. We reflected on the psychological profile and life history of the women with whom we work.



RENATE Training on Intervention & Integration of VoTHB in Spain

When we face the phenomena of THB so many biblical texts come to mind: the search for a promised land, the Good Samaritan attending the wounded, different letters and texts of St. Paul’s. We intend to mirror this process, to keep an eye on the THB issue and at the same time keep in mind a biblical framework. Members came to learn about the issue as well as to reflect and strengthen the bonds that support the Network. They celebrated together through liturgy, cultural trips and companionship. The visit to Avila, the place of birth of St. Teresa of Jesus, will remain an unforgettable experience for all.

Film on the Work of RENATE

The RENATE film project began officially in Autumn 2014, when contracts were signed between the President of RENATE and the Conference of Religious in Slovakia. Filming has already taken place at the RENATE meetings in 2014, and followed in 2015. At the Board Meeting in Albania, Sr. Ivica Kúšiková, the film-maker, shared her experience with the preparatory work based on the abstract which included four chosen countries for the shooting of the film. Originally these were: Albania, Germany, Italy and Romania. Her idea was to show how the work against human trafficking is carried out by the various members of RENATE in their countries.

Sr. Ivica Kúšiková filmed in Regensburg, the advocacy and awareness raising done by the Membership, and this is one side of the coin. The other is the victim's voice, which she wants to show without disclosing the identity of any person who agrees to cooperate in this. Sr. Ivica found it difficult to get permission to do the filming in some of the chosen locations. It became clear that there was a need to identify good places for completing the shooting. The Board approved this idea and several offers were made to support the film-maker with her task of attaining the goal. People in direct action offered their assistance.



Sr. Ivica Kúšiková, SSpS, Film Maker

Presence at the EU Platform

The RENATE Network is a member of the EU Civil Society Platform against Trafficking in Human Beings, launched in Brussels on 31 May 2013. The members of the Platform met in May, 21 – 22, and the second meeting was scheduled for October. The main aims of the May meeting were three workshops, where the members could report about their experience in the member states according to the following topics: Workshop 1: Children as a high risk group of trafficking; Workshop 2: Emerging concerns (sham marriages, forced criminality, trafficking in human beings for the purpose of organ removal vs. organ trafficking); Workshop 3: Prevention of trafficking in human beings. These workshops were very interesting and fruitful, because the whole picture of the problem in Europe was exposed and the priority countries (Albania, Morocco, Turkey and Ukraine) also shared their experiences and were open to questions and discussion about their various challenges in the field.



RENATE Members with EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator Myria Vassiliadou (second from right) & Katarzyna Cuadrat-Grzybowska (second from left)

The account of this meeting was shared on the RENATE website. Sr. Mirjam Beike, RGS, has been representing Mary Ward Loreto in Albania and also RENATE. She has written a comprehensive report for the RENATE website. Mrs. Aneta Grabowska was also present at the meeting, representing PoMOC Association from Poland.

5.3 ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH

President of RENATE at the UCESM Meeting in Albania

On March 26, Sr. Imelda Poole was invited to present RENATE at the **AGM of the Major Religious Superiors Conference in Europe UCESM**. 30 European conferences were represented by about 70 religious. Imelda was warmly welcomed and received good feedback after her presentation. One of the excellent fruits of this presentation has been on-going conversation with a priest and religious from the Ukraine who were looking for help to initiate anti trafficking work in their country.

Since that meeting, a religious present at the meeting has donated from her congregation, 5,000 euro for the work of RENATE. For this we are very grateful.

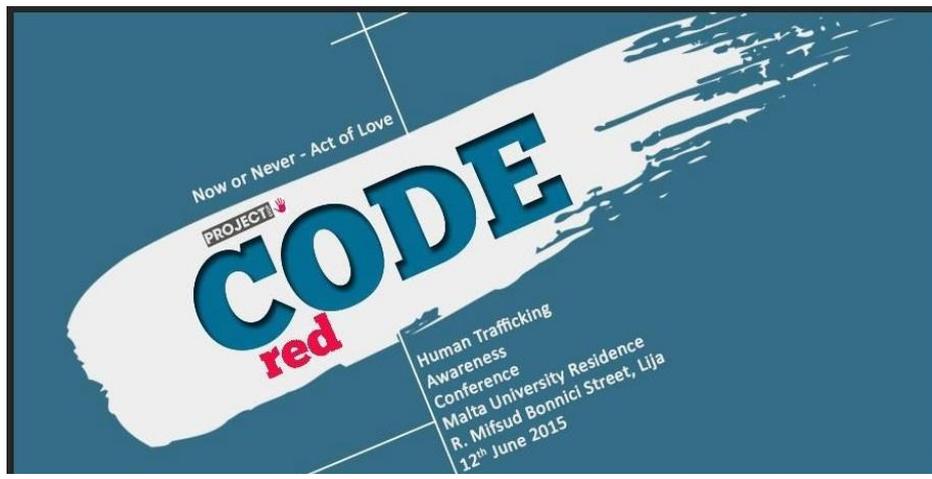


The following day some of the MWL staff came on pilgrimage with the 50 members of UCESM to Shkodra. It was towards the end of Lent and we made a most moving stations of the cross following in the footsteps of the many martyrs, priests and nuns who had died during the communist regime, in Albania, for their faith. We finished the day with Mass at The Cathedral in Shkodra. Since this meeting a commitment has been made to the needs of the church in the Ukraine. The Slovakian member of the RENATE Board, Sister Bohdana Bezakova, CJ, has visited the Ukraine and made many contacts. Now we have members of RENATE from the Ukraine. An on-going active collaboration is taking place to support the work of anti-trafficking in this country. One of these new members will represent Ukraine at the next Board meeting of RENATE. We thank UCESM for opening the door to this work.

CODE Red ‘Now or Never, Act of Love’ Conference in Malta

RENATE responded to the invitation received from the Cross Culture International Foundation (CCIF) in Malta. This non-profit organisation was set up in June 2012 to enhance international understanding and friendship through education, networking, volunteering, exchanging cultural programs, ideas and experiences directly among people of different countries and diverse cultures. CCIF is involved in a number of initiatives and activities in Malta aimed at making a difference in the local communities.

One such important initiative was the Human Trafficking Awareness Conference titled ‘Now or Never, Act of Love’. This was held on the 12th June 2015 at Malta University. RENATE member from Malta, Sr. Margaret Gonzi, RGS, attended the event and contributed to it by giving a presentation on: “What the Church is doing to stop the evil done by Human Trafficking.” She focused on Pope Francis’ plea to work together to end this evil. Following on from this, Sr. Margaret explained about RENATE and how this Foundation operates



Conference banner: ‘Now or Never – Act of Love’

to bring people together, as well as its mission based on Gospel values. She included the work done by her Congregation, The Good Shepherd Sisters, in addition to various other organizations in Malta such as the Jesuit Refugee Services Malta, Caritas and the Diocesan Emigrants’ Commission.

CEIPA Round Table Discussion in Brussels

The Centre for European and International Policy Action (CEIPA) held a round-table discussion on ‘The new EU Agenda on Migration: challenges and opportunities.’ The event took place in Brussels on 30th June 2015. Mrs. Anne Kelleher, RENATE Communications Person, attended on behalf of the Network. It was an open forum for opinion leaders, experts, academics and civil society to discuss and re-think the paradigms of short-term responses versus long-term strategies in migration management in light of the complexity of the new EU strategic approach adopted by the European Commission. Discussions focused on coherent EU-wide approaches towards short-term life-saving operations at sea; long-term policies on international protection and the principle of solidarity amongst European Union Member States. Those present also considered ways to maximize the benefits of labour migration and, to a lesser extent, how best to boost the fight against smuggling and trafficking in human beings. A comprehensive report from this meeting was submitted by Mrs. Kelleher for posting on the RENATE website.

President of RENATE at the SDS International Conference in Rome

Sr. Imelda Poole, IBVM was invited to the SDS Conference (international event on trafficking) in Rome on 6th – 7th August 2015. She spoke on behalf of RENATE in four presentations which included a general overview of trafficking, the RENATE Network, the Mapping Across Europe and a *photonovela*



from Albania which features the real human trafficking story. She also spoke on the prevention work in Albania. The anti-trafficking International Meeting took place to provide the Sisters an opportunity to learn more about how to work together to continue their pastoral activity in favour of life and to take action against any form of exploitation.

Symposium on the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Street People at the Vatican

This symposium was held at the Vatican and led by the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People, from 14 – 17 September 2015. The message from Pope Francis and the teachings of the Church has always been strong and clear in relation to those in need. We need to stand by the refugees and migrants, protect their rights, protest against evil, give shelter, love and compassion and a chance for them to live a life of dignity. The planet and all that is in it is the common heritage of all. The bounty of the earth is not just for the powerful few to the exclusion of the rest of humanity, but for all. The document on The Church in the World, from Vatican Council II says:

“There is a growing awareness of the exalted dignity proper to the human person, since the person stands above all things and the rights and duties of each one stands above all things and their rights and duties are universal and inviolable. Therefore, there must be made available for every human being everything necessary for leading a truly human life, such as food, clothing and shelter ... The right to found a family, the right to education, to employment, to a good reputation, to respect ...”
(*Gaudium et Spes*, No. 26)



Pope Francis with participants of the Vatican Symposium, September 2015

This theme was maintained throughout the symposium, leading to a plan of action as guidelines for the Church. The first day was spent examining the Biblical foundations and the Social Teachings of the Church to underpin thinking and to give direction for participants as they moved towards writing a corporate plan of action for future guidelines in the Church. Many texts from the scriptures and from the Catholic Social Teaching of the Church emphasise the subject of human rights and dignity to be given to each person.

The reflection of these truths in terms of the present-day reality was expressed in a moving presentation from the leader of the Council of Europe, representing the Inter-Government Anti-Gypsism and Roma Equality Unit. She herself was of Roma origin and spoke with great credibility. There was also a presentation given by the Director of GRETA (the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings), an independent body which monitors the European country efforts made against trafficking in human persons. The programme was participant-led and consisted of panels of speakers from every continent of the world. All who spoke were working at the ‘grass roots’ level with migrants, street women and street children and their families. Short video clips were shown during intervals to highlight the words spoken by the panel speakers. The European panel, with two members from the RENATE Network – Ivonne Van de Kar from the Netherlands and Imelda Poole, IBVM from Albania – also represented their home countries.

The final day was memorable when participants met Pope Francis in the Vatican audience hall. He is a Pope like no other in his simplicity of life. He spoke movingly about a need for continued dedication to this work. We are called to speak and not be silent.

Mapping Exercise on the Work against Trafficking across Europe

Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB, led the Mapping Exercise project for RENATE from March 2014 until it was completed by the end of September 2015. The results of Patricia’s undertaking in co-operation with Sr. Marie Power, HFB, were regularly shared with the Core Group and the Board, who were invited to comment at the various stages of this project. The research investigated the Human Trafficking situation in the chosen thirteen European countries where RENATE has its members.

Some locations were visited personally by Patricia or Marie, unless other members of RENATE were authorised by them to carry out interviews based on a produced framework of questions. At the end all information had to be compiled and analysed together, which was challenging. The executive summary for the final report was written by Revd. Dr. Carrie Pemberton Ford, Director of the Cambridge Centre for Applied Research on Human Trafficking. There is a foreword from Professor of Theology, Mary Grey, and a preface from the President of RENATE, Imelda Poole, IBVM. The final shape of the Mapping Across Europe report was designed by Patricia and formatted by Manushaqe Cypi, MWL. It is planned for printing and distribution before the end of 2015.



Cover of RENATE Mapping Across Europe

It is important for us to read in this report the context of the mapping itself. The following is the first item of this mapping document.

THE CONTEXT

RENATE undertook this Mapping Exercise in order to ascertain the extent of human trafficking in the countries where its members are working on anti-trafficking issues in areas of prevention and protection, from victim support through shelters, to education-awareness, policy and advocacy, recovery and reintegration as well as campaigning.

What RENATE did not know was the extent of that work, its impact, and the requirements for resources which could be shared across the Network so as to strengthen its impact in ending the culture of human trafficking.

It was in this spirit of enquiry - to be able to strengthen the contribution of women religious their congregations and associates, in the world-wide fight to resist human trafficking and to extend the hand of God in supporting victims of this terrible crime - that RENATE set out to understand what more needed to be done in planning strategically into the future.

Having ‘put out a call’ for RENATE members to undertake the task of finding out the situation in each country - through a series of conversations and interviews and aided by existing reports - that this Mapping Exercise took place. Equipped with open hearts and minds, ready to listen and be surprised, the authors of these reports set forth across 13 European countries in 2014-2015.

What is contained in the pages of this document is rich, diverse, and in many cases inspiring. What the reader will find is not so much an academic professional assessment, but a quilted set of insights, observations, interviews and conversations, knit together around the wider setting of the most recent US TIP report, 2015 that sets each country within the international framework.

Our thanks go to the primary authors of each country for their valuable work. Thanks to all who supported them, who contributed to the findings, who offered time and hospitality to each whilst undertaking this Mapping Exercise. It is hoped that no one is left out of the acknowledgments list since every effort has been taken to list names.

Members of RENATE, not engaged in writing the reports, were invited to express their motivation for the work of anti-trafficking, to give their personal motivation for this work in the face of the relentless presence of human trafficking. These pieces are also included in this document.

Thanks to Dr. Carrie Pemberton-Ford for drawing all the reports together and bringing some shape to what now makes an interesting tapestry.

Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB

The mapping document may be read on the RENATE website www.renate-europe.net

5.4 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

First International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Trafficking

Individuals, friends, families and communities were united in prayer on the 8th of February, feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita. This was in response to Pope Francis' invitation to the world to honour the First International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Trafficking. Press releases with resources have been circulated in countries worldwide by numerous organisations working to combat human trafficking. These resources, inter-faith prayer services, prayers, songs and intercessions were readily accessible on the public domain of the RENATE website to all who wished to avail themselves of them.

Sr Imelda Poole IBVM as President of RENATE was invited by the members of the Vatican to a press release to inaugurate this special day. The Director of Talitha Kum and many other dignitaries in the church were present at this press release. It gave the church an opportunity to speak with over 30 journalists about this terrible evil present in our world today.

Here are samples of events that took place, throughout the RENATE Network:

- In Albania, Bishop Frenco, OP presided over a very special Liturgy which was prepared in honour of St. Bakhita. The theme of “Light Dispelling the Darkness of Trafficking” communicated a very hopeful message to all who attended. Prayer cards were distributed and people joined in prayer together. After the ceremony, there were conversations about how to be more proactive in working against human trafficking.
- In the UK, members of RENATE marked the day by submitting writing on the life and story of Saint Bakhita to parish newsletters. Prayer cards for the victims of human trafficking were distributed at Churches. Silent vigils were observed and prayer groups convened. Morning Mass, broadcast from Brentwood Cathedral, gave special mention of the day and Fr. Martin Boland gave his homily on Bakhita's life.
- Caritas Slovakia organised a prayer service on the occasion of the First International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking. This prayer service took place at the Jesuit Church in Bratislava on Sunday, 8th February 2015. The prayer service, broadcast live on national radio, was accompanied by the songs of Taize, performed by the professional church choir Chorus Salvatoris. Initial introductory words and opening prayers were followed by Psalms and stories of trafficked Slovak victims. Candles of hope were placed on each continent of the world map symbolizing the global extent of human trafficking (pictured on the cover of this report). Then prayers of intercession were read not only for all victims, but also for traffickers, pimps, government and church representatives. Prayers were also offered for all of us that we might be able to face *globalisation of indifference* with *globalisation of solidarity*. All participants then lit candles for freedom and dignity. Images of St. Josephine Bakhita, printed on a prayer card, were distributed to all participants.
- Together with the Dutch Conference of Religious, the SRTV in the Netherlands devised inter-faith prayer services, comprising prayers, hymns and intercessions to share with the churches and congregations throughout the Netherlands and Belgium. The national broadcasting station also featured these services in the Netherlands.

- In Romania, the opportunity was taken on the 1st of February, at the official opening day for the Year of Consecrated Life, to share fliers, prayer cards and information in preparation for the First International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Trafficking, with representatives from all the religious orders present at the official opening. These were then distributed at the parish Masses or prayer services dedicated to the victims of human trafficking in and from Romania.
- The award winning Ten Ten Theatre Company in London, premiered a specially commissioned film of the Saint Bakhita story and human trafficking, which was screened in London on her feast day, 8th February. The twenty-six minute documentary film follows a group of nineteen-year-old students from Sacred Heart School in Hammersmith, West London, who are on a quest to understand the issue of modern slavery and what they can do to stop it. The Ten Ten Theatre Company have worked with The Medaille Trust as well as TRAC UK for the past eighteen months in the making of this documentary film. Previously, the theatre group produced a one-woman play on human trafficking entitled, This is my Body, written by Martin O'Brien, founding member of the Company.
- The Fundación Amaranta in Majorca, Spain, recorded the testimonies of the women they are supporting to recover from trafficking. Through their testimony, their voices will be heard; no-one can turn a deaf ear to their stories.
- There were many, many more special events which took place to join with the prayer in Rome, Italy, as per a sample invitation on the right.



A poster invitation to join the prayer in Rome, Italy

Say a Prayer and Light a Candle

An element of Theological Reflection which accompanies any action of RENATE is present on the website. A unique prayer widget invites web browsers to say a prayer and light a candle. There is a choice of prayers in different languages or the possibility to add one's own. RENATE is happy to see the number on the prayer-counter growing from almost 40,000 at the beginning of 2015 to over 60,000 prayers said for the victims of human trafficking by the end of September.

5.5 STRUCTURES

Care of Members was given special attention by the European philanthropic body supporting the work of RENATE. It values greatly the work being done by the members. It gave great encouragement to the network to look at ways in which care of members would be considered. This included a chance to rest as well as a chance to take opportunities to improve knowledge, information and skills. RENATE identified the following areas of support for its Members:

- English Language Training for the Membership
- Emergency Fund for Local Projects
- Emergency Relief from Work
- Retreat for the Working Board/Core Group

Core Group Meeting in Malta

The meeting in Malta took place from 10th – 17th January 2015. It was organized exclusively for the Core Group of RENATE. They had a chance to meet in a more informal setting to discuss work matters as well as to take a break in the beautiful surroundings of Malta. The discussions covered finances and the work of RENATE over the past year in light of the audit. This led to evaluation whether the Network fulfilled the Plan of Action for 2014, prior to this being presented to the Board in March. The topics connected with future work included: website, branding, communications, English language training, cross-cultural experiences, mapping, media, future trainings and events and the structure of the Network.

Fund for Members

One of the major objectives of RENATE is to support the members in their daily work and to build capacity for this task. To achieve this objective, RENATE has a Fund at the disposal of its members who can request grants for their needs. To avail oneself of this fund the applicant must comply with RENATE's Criteria and the Donor's Guidelines.

It is envisaged that the Fund will be used for:

A. Member Only

- English language course
- short respite care for worker
- upskill a worker in the field of Human Trafficking or in a short English language course (not planned for in the Project's Annual Budget)

B. Local Projects

- To meet the needs of those who have been trafficked or may be at risk of being trafficked (not for infrastructure). *Examples: health issues; homelessness: 6 months' rent to help families become independent (resettlement); education of woman or childcare fees so as to be free to avail of any educational course.*

The criteria and application form is added to the Member Area of the website. Members can take advantage of the fund by returning the completed form (electronically) to RENATE's official email address: renatenetwork@gmail.com The Secretary informs the applicant of the outcome of the Core Group's decision.

2015, I – IX, Successful Applications for RENATE Fund for Members
(all amounts stated in euro, list is in chronological order)

| | Initials | Country | Date | Project | Amount granted | Notes |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | KMS | Czech Rep. | 12.01.2015 | English course in IE | 1,000.00 | complete |
| 2 | GB | Italy | 20.04.2015 | English course in UK | 1,000.00 | complete |
| 3 | IL | Romania | 25.05.2015 | English course in RO | 443.79 | complete |
| 4 | PN | Romania | 25.05.2015 | English course in RO | 500.00 | complete |
| 5 | IP | Albania | 13.07.2015 | Specialised course for 5 p. | 2,000.00 | complete |
| 6 | JSH | Spain | 20.07.2015 | English course in ES | 1,000.00 | complete |
| 7 | AB | Poland | 31.08.2015 | English course for group in PL | 2,000.00 | complete |
| Total in EUR | | | | | 7,943.79 | |

The agreed maximum donation for a course is **1,000.00 EUR** and **2,000.00 EUR** for a local project (per applicant per annum)

From January until September 2015, RENATE supported seven applications from six countries with a total amount of €7,943.79. Five persons received funding for an English course, of whom one completed her course in Ireland, one in the United Kingdom and three continue classes at the courses in their home countries. Two local projects in Albania and Poland were granted €2,000 each. The Albanian project enabled a group of five psychologists (who work with victims of trafficking) to complete one module of their postgraduate qualification in cognitive and behavioural therapy. The Polish project supported 10-months of weekly English classes for five members of staff and for inhabitants of the shelter. All who completed their courses submitted reports and presented accounts to the Financial Officer.

Working Board Meeting in Durrës, Albania

RENATE Working Board members – sisters and lay co-workers – gathered in Durrës, close to Tirana, to evaluate last year's activities of the Network and to plan for its future work. The assembly included 28 participants representing 18 European countries. Thanks to the advanced booking of the venue by Sr. Imelda Poole, IBVM, and the organisation of the meeting by the team of colleagues from Mary Ward Loreto, the Working Board was able to enjoy Albanian hospitality in the beautiful surroundings of the Adriatic coast. All gathered together to plan the future work of RENATE.

The Working Board included five new members: Sr. Andrea Tillmanns from Belgium, Mrs. Joana Terzieva from Bulgaria, Sr. Gabriella Légrádi from Hungary, Mrs. Kristina Mišiniene from Lithuania and Sr. Margaret Gonzi from Malta. They had each joined RENATE over the last twelve months prior to meeting in Albania. Two of them had already a chance to meet a wider circle of members: Mrs. Terzieva attended the Training on Labour Trafficking & Migration organised by RENATE in November 2014 and Sr. Margaret had the opportunity to liaise with the Core Group during their meeting in Malta in



January, 2015. There were also special participants, Sr. Ivica Kúšiková, SSpS and Mr. Róbert Chovanec from Slovakia, professional film makers, working for the Slovakian Conference of Religious (Konferencia vyšších predstavených ženských reholí). Mrs. Annie Bannister, Website Developer from the UK was present for one day. Throughout the week Sr. Anne Griffin provided on-going translation for our Spanish members. The Board was assisted by the RENATE Financial Officer from Albania, Mr. Artan Toska, who dealt with payments for this gathering. Invaluable on-going support was provided by Mary Ward Loreto Logistics Manager, Mr. Pjeter Tanushaj and colleagues: Mr. Gazimir Memaj, Mrs Manushoqje Cypi and Mr. Edmond Kocli. The Board Meeting was facilitated for the third year by Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB (active in TRAC Group UK, also a member of the RENATE Network, and of the Core Group).

The detailed Agenda – which included a field trip to Tirana and its outskirts – formed the timetable for the six working days. Each day was used to its maximum to ensure that all important issues were covered. The Working Board had a chance to reflect on the 2014 Annual Report and Audit of RENATE in light of the expenditures and finances available for 2015. This led the Board to look at future plans and the forthcoming calendar of events, such as: a common campaign for RENATE, the up-coming Training on Intervention and Integration of the Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings in June, Training for Transformation in October, RENATE's presence at the National Assembly of Catholics in Germany in May 2016 and the RENATE Assembly for all Membership in Autumn 2016. The new ideas which came to light were the branding of the Network and its further on-line development. All these were underpinned by Holy Mass celebrated everyday by Fr. Constantine, who gave homilies especially for us. Theological reflections prepared by Core Group members enabled the work of the day to end on a peaceful note.

An inculturation into the 'host' country formed a very important part of the programme. Since the meeting was hosted in Albania, Sr. Imelda Poole gave the Working Board an excellent 'flavour' of the country. She invited five guest speakers: Ep. George Frendo OP, Bishop of Tirana; Father Giovanni Peragine CCRSP, President of UCESM; Dr. Elona Gjebrea, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs in Albania; Mrs. Edlira Gjoni, journalist and Mrs. Mariana Meshi, Director of Different&Equal. All five guests presented Albania in the context of their particular work. Bishop Frendo gave a very good introduction to the religions in Albania and faith tradition. Fr. Peragine spoke about the Conference of Religious in Albania. Dr. Gjebrea explained the whole problem of

trafficking and the government policies in place to combat this crime. Mrs. Gjoni gave an excellent insight into the cultural reality of Albania. And finally Mrs. Meshi, who is also a RENATE Member, presented anti-trafficking work at the grass roots level.

It was enriching to hear what they had to say and to hear the follow-up questions from the Working Board members and the responses from the panel members. In turn, the guests were very interested to hear from each participant about her involvement in the work against human trafficking. An important experience for the Working Board was the Thursday trip to Tirana and into the north of Albania to Shkodra and Hot i Ri. The Participants were given the opportunity to visit various NGOs working against Trafficking, including: Different&Equal, Mary Ward Loreto and SHKEJ. In the afternoon the group went together to the north where they visited one of the Mary Ward Loreto Projects called Mary Ward's Women where they listened to the women of Hot i Ri and saw their crafts and the sage growing in the fields. These were small businesses working towards economic independence. All the group celebrated the Holy Mass at the Cathedral in Shkoder. Later in the evening, the group enjoyed a very pleasant and unforgettable meal at the "Tre Kitarat" Restaurant in Durrës, with traditional music and dancing. This day trip will remain a memorable experience for all.

We are grateful for the courtesy and hospitality of our Albanian colleagues who made our stay unforgettable. A big thank you! It was a week of hard work and it was also a good time to be together and to feel united in the mission of RENATE against human trafficking. Theological Reflection, planned at the end of each day, as well as liturgy which accompanied the beginning and closing of the meeting, was very important. The spirit of prayer is the core of any activity undertaken by RENATE.

Skype Conference Calls

The Core Group of RENATE met via Skype six times from January until September 2015. A detailed list of conference calls is included at the end of this report. Each meeting took usually 1.5 hours or longer and was finalised with written minutes. This communication system enables the smooth flow of information and assists the completion of tasks.

6. CHALLENGES

Some of the challenges experienced by the RENATE Network include:

- Taking time out for rest and relaxation (R&R) from the work.
- Holiday Time – difficulties in getting responses to complete the Mapping Exercise because of work-commitments of members when such an exercise requires additional time on their part as well as some expertise in doing the task.
- Technical Problems – the on-going development of the RENATE Website.
- The frequency of change experienced when Core Group members 'move away' or when the Working Board has new members who require time to integrate into the Network and understand its method of working.
- Because of the nature of the Network with its variety of languages, it is not easy to fulfil the requirements for information to cater for all languages.

7. CONCLUSIONS

It seems appropriate that in this year, when the great work of the mapping exercise has been finalised and is now a working document for all, that we first of all acknowledge Sr. Patricia Mulhall, CSB for her great achievement in ensuring the completion of this exercise in collaboration with so many. It also seems appropriate that we conclude this report with the recommendations, made for RENATE into the future, which have been identified in the report. These recommendations were included in the Executive Summary written by Revd. Dr. Carrie Pemberton and are a clear and inciteful reflection on the work of the Network. It is of value to highlight these in this conclusion:

- A clear strategy to be developed looking at the Network as a whole and to see its various strengths and capabilities, which can be shared across both its European members and wider affiliates. This will also benefit the Network through enabling it to understand its various areas of excellence, or areas which some of its colleagues within multi-agency affiliations have developed which can be shared. There is also an opportunity to undertake a brief and honest audit on areas which are not so effective and the reasons for this (lack of resources, training, or inappropriate to the talents and charism of the Congregation).
- The development of a network to enable the better reintegration of those who are returned after being trafficked. Within this mix there will also be those who have undertaken migration and encountered a number of exceedingly demeaning experiences, or failed in their attempts to ‘access a better life’ and need to save face. There needs to be clear strategies developed and training put in place to protect survivors from having to ‘rehearse’ the abuse which was experienced when under the control of their traffickers as they return to their ‘source’ country. Some of this work is currently being undertaken in ‘one-off’ co-operative efforts – however this is worth exploring further to try and build in some ‘kite-marked’ best practice in this sphere.
- Development of capacity, competency and networks (both in countries of source and countries of exploitation) which are able to work with the post trauma impacts of trafficking.
- This will in turn need to inform some of the ‘spiritual’ or ‘religious’ impacts of isolation (from faith/ family community) and the somewhat ‘perverse’ but abundantly evidenced internal generation of false guilt.
- Opportunities to develop niche partnerships (in country, bilateral or multi-lateral) with experts or bespoke organisations already involved with enabling recovery from sexual exploitation – as a particularly sensitive space where guilt is generated.
- Awareness-raising and training in countries of source around the network – in churches and all networks where Religious Congregations reach – of the early risk factors pertaining to abuse of women, and child sexual exploitation. This can feed into training and interventions in this area to build political representation of women, and cultural shifts in the appropriate protection of women through real-time gender equality expressed through legislation and all the manifestations of the Church’s teaching and presence in the countries where RENATE members are active.

- Support and development of early warning – help line, support, information distribution via media, sermons, pastoral letters, education procedures, safeguarding around violence against women, sexual exploitation and violence within the home – with multi-agency and inter-denominational engagement.
- Safeguarding procedures – best practice to be shared across the communities, and qualifications for safeguarding training cascaded across the Network. This is particularly important for all Congregations working in the educational sector, and for all Church leaders, priests, deacons and those working in the wider organisation of the churches.
- The further preparation and development of resources which can equip all congregational members on the challenge of human trafficking in all its forms. Materials designed to raise individuals' sense of responsibility to 'take action' to stop trafficking, whether as a potential consumer, friend, teacher, neighbour of someone at trafficking risk, family member of someone involved in the recruiting trafficking 'nexus', giver of succour or support to someone who has survived trafficking, or very simply as a citizen participating in a 'global chain of interconnected worlds' and interceding with their lives for change.
- Support for Pope Francis' initiative on counter corruption – supporting this as part of a wider mandate to develop State resources across the European Union to resist the negative impacts of corruption on the resilience of public bodies to resist human trafficking forces.
- Facilitating conversation across the RENATE membership and the possible development of a RENATE workbook on the issues which are raised in the Nordic model, so that RENATE membership is well sighted on the challenges and the potential paradigm shift which this legislation could represent in the specific fight against trafficking for sexual exploitation.
- Steadiness, resolve, long-term attention and the commitment of resources, aided by the attention to prayer, spirituality of resistance, resources to build communities' networks to resist trafficking, to uphold respect and dignity for each individual, to assert gender equality, to resist all forms of inequality and violence against the person, to work collaboratively – these are the challenges faced by RENATE Network into the future – and which each country report bears testimony to in its own unique way.''

We are hoping in the year ahead, that as we plan for the RENATE 2nd Assembly, all our work into the future will respond to these recommendations. We hope that the programme of the RENATE second assembly, being held in Rome in November 2016, will include a process which will enable us to deliberate and plan action around these very important recommendations. We live in hope for greater collaboration, for deepening our international networks and for seeing, in some significant way, a reduction of this horrific crime. We hope that measures being implemented by governments are just and criminalise the traffickers and protect the victim. We hope that more and more countries will see the value in criminalising the perpetrators of prostitution so that the sex trade is reduced around the world. This would be a significant event which would lead to a great reduction in demand and greater protection of victims of trafficking. The Nordic model, as it has been called in the past, seems to be the only just way forward.

We close this report with a word from one of the victims and the wisdom of Pope Francis.

Every Girl's nightmare

*My body isn't mine
My bones are bruised, my wrists are raw, but really, it is my mind that hurts the most.
I am sold and bought.
And somewhere my voice has been lost in a tangled mess.*

*I watch from a distance,
This window is the only thing I have.
People passing by, they're all just like me
Except they are happy;
And they belong to themselves.*

*Where's their humanity?
They lost it in the tangled mess as well, I guess.
My freedom is taken for granted.
I look again at those people passing by
They are not for sale.*

2nd December 2015, International day for the Abolition of Slavery

"No one can claim to be indifferent, in the face of new forms of slavery, imposed by criminal organisations which buy and sell men, women and children, as forced labourers, in construction, agriculture, fishing or in other markets.

*How many minors are still forced to fight in militias as child soldiers!
How many people are victims of organ trafficking, forced begging and sexual exploitation!*

Today's refugees are fleeing from these abhorrent crimes, and they appeal to the Church and the human community to ensure that, in the outstretched hand of those who receive them, they can see the face of the Lord, 'the Father of mercies and God of all consolation'."

(2 Cor 1:3), Pope Francis

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

RENATE would like to thank each member for commitment to its common mission.

RENATE would like to thank its generous donors who have enabled the implementation of the third year of its action plan.

RENATE would like to thank in particular Aneta Grabowska, Secretary to the Network, for her great work in compiling this report and also to those members who have made a contribution to the writing of this document.

May God continue to bless the work of each member of the Network.

SIGNATURE

Sr. Imelda Poole IBVM, President of RENATE

8. TIMELINE OF 2015 EVENTS FROM JANUARY UNTIL SEPTEMBER

| DATE | EVENT |
|------------------------|--|
| 8 January 2015 | Core Group conference call via skype |
| 14 – 15 January 2015 | Core Group Meeting in Malta |
| 8 February 2015 | St. Bakhita's Day, First International Day of Prayer against Trafficking |
| 13 February 2015 | Core Group conference call via skype |
| 9 – 16 March 2015 | Working Board Meeting in Albania |
| 26 March 2015 | Core Group conference call via skype |
| 1 April 2015 | Third Edition of RENATE Newsletter |
| 30 April 2015 | Core Group conference call via skype |
| 21 – 22 May 2015 | EU Civil Society Platform Meeting, Brussels, Belgium |
| 31 May – 5 June 2015 | Training on Intervention & Integration of VoTHB, Madrid, Spain |
| 2 June 2015 | Core Group Meeting in person, Madrid, Spain |
| 12 June 2015 | CODE Red 'Now or Never, Act of Love' Conference, Malta |
| 22 June 2015 | Core Group conference call via skype |
| 30 June 2015 | CEIPA Round Table Discussion, Brussels, Belgium |
| 30 June 2015 | Fourth Edition of RENATE Newsletter |
| 6 – 7 August 2015 | SDS Conference on Human Trafficking, Rome, Italy |
| 12 – 16 August 2015 | ANDANTE Summer School, Vienna, Austria |
| 8 September 2015 | Core Group conference call via skype |
| 14 – 17 September 2015 | Symposium on the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Street People, Vatican |
| 23 – 24 September 2015 | Cross-cultural experience in Ukraine |
| 30 September 2015 | Fifth Edition of RENATE Newsletter |



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“Since we are by nature relational beings, meant to find fulfilment through interpersonal relationships inspired by justice and love, it is fundamental for our human development that our dignity, freedom and autonomy be acknowledged and respected.”

NO LONGER SLAVES, BUT BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Pope Francis, 1 January 2015