

eLiberare

Annual Report



2021

**Inspiring
freedom**

Bucharest, ROMÂNIA
info@eliberare.com
www.eliberare.com



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Introduction

While after 2020 the whole world was looking forward to 2021, it seems that the new 'roaring 20s' thus far have a way of progressively surprising us, not always in the most pleasant ways.

With the pandemic continuing and still pushing our limits because of the restrictions, we had to continue to adapt and increase our creative responses, in order to ensure the desired impact in our activities. This looked a lot like hard work, a team that goes above and beyond, and countless hours of selfless investment for those most vulnerable in our society. For that, I am most grateful to the amazing people that I get to bring about change with.

2021 also meant the recognition of our efforts by the general public, as well as by some of the most dedicated supporters of children's rights, such as Her Majesty, Queen Silvia of Sweden.

2021 put us on the global map of best practice models, our model of empowering local leaders and nonformal actors in detecting and notifying potential human trafficking cases being recognised by the UN University, and added in the Delta 8.7 Justice Guide on 'What Works' when tackling human trafficking.

2021 saw the first crisis texline for reporting suspicions or cases of exploitation, providing an alternative to the voice-only helpline that is only available during business hours. It saw people finding freedom from sexual exploitation, forced begging or forced labour.

2021 also marked a new era in our interventions, because in our desire to stay centered on the people that we served, we hired our first expert by experience, thus bringing our many consulting contracts full circle and to a more permanent and mature phase.

To say that we are grateful for everything this past year has brought would be an understatement. People who challenged us and helped us to become better joined our team. The mutual feeling that we get most days is that we can hardly believe that we can have this shared mission and vision everyday, and for that we thank you all, because without your support and generosity none of this would have been possible.

2021 meant launching the first **Center for Assistance in Detection and Notification of Human Trafficking Cases** at the community level.

This has taken our model of involving local actors to another level and helped us to synchronize with the heart of the communities in which we serve.

The logo for 'Liberate' is written in a white, cursive script font inside a blue circular background.

Ioana Bauer

President of the Board

The issue of human trafficking

The phenomenon is extremely dynamic and easily adaptable to any context, therefore in the Covid19 Pandemic context we noticed an increase of online exploitation cases. National and international reports show that **ROMANIA IS THE MAIN SOURCE** of human trafficking victims in the EU.

Trafficking in persons is enhanced by a series of vulnerabilities:



SOCIAL

level of education
area of living



ECONOMICAL

impossibility to find work
unemployment



EMOTIONAL ASPECTS

lack of affection

In 2020, in Romania there were **596** identified victims of human trafficking (**463** women and **133** men).

The main counties of recruitment: **Galați, Iași, Bacău, Dolj**

Source of origin:



52,52%
rural areas



47,48%
urban areas
(4,36% in Bucharest)

Age:



42.79%
255 minors



57.21%
341 adults

For minor victims the average age is 14. Girls (81% of identified victims) were exploited sexually through forced prostitution, and boys (19%) were recruited for child pornography.

Means of exploitation:

- sexual exploitation **426 cases**
- labor exploitation **96 cases**
- forced begging **37 cases**
- forced criminal activity **1 case, 36 tentatives**

eLiberare

→ MISSION

eLiberare is a Romanian organization focused on preventing human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

How do we do this?

- We identify and understand the need
- We create the resources to address the need
- We empower people in communities to find solutions
- We transfer the models that work.

→ VALUES

Respect

We recognise the inherent value of each person we come in contact with and we are considerate of them.

Excellence

We use all the resources available and we are open to new opportunities for growth and learning so that we can achieve the best results in the activities we pursue.

Integrity

We are committed to following a correct path, which will honor us both professionally and personally.

Empathy

Everyone has the right to set their own direction in life. We understand and accept everyone's decision.

OUR PRIORITIES



Prevention education

Reducing the risk of exploitation by creating practical tools that contribute to critical thinking and the development of discernment.



Capacity building

Organizing training sessions about human trafficking for social workers, teachers, police officers, priests or other groups of people and informal leaders active at the community level.



Assistance

Within the Center for Assistance and Information for the Detection of Human Trafficking Cases, or on the basis of partnerships with shelters for victims and survivors, in order to reintegrate them into society through mentoring programs or material support.



Advocacy and public policies

In order to create opportunities and links between people from different fields and backgrounds in order to improve the legislative process and the protection of victims.



Awareness events

Both online and offline, for informative purposes regarding the phenomenon and to raise the general public's awareness of human trafficking and the effects it has on individuals and the society.

Team



Vlad Bauer

Financial Director



**Loredana
Urzică-Mirea**

Strategic Development and
Advocacy Director



Cătălina Stroe

Education and Prevention
Programs Coordinator





Cristina Aftenii
Programs Director



Cătălina Matei
Design and Creation
Coordinator



Livia Rădăcină
Social Work Programs and
Trainings Coordinator





Mirabela Vasile
Advocacy Consultant





Training sessions for leaders in roma communities.

1 January



eLiberare is one of the Child 10 awarded members of 2021. At the European level they awarded 10 organizations that fight against human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, out of 90 that were nominated.

2 February



Participation in the "Caring for our children" Governmental Program, coordinated by the Romanian Government. eLiberare participated as an expert in the Working Group on the theme of Child Safety, together with representatives of different ministries and partner organizations.

8 August



The opening of the Center for Assistance and Information for the Detection of Human Trafficking cases.

7 July



Founded an emergency phone line for citizens to signal potential trafficking cases. Any suspicion of human trafficking can be notified through a text message at 0757 749 845.

9 September



Launched "Victims of Human Trafficking are Hidden in Plain Sight", an awareness campaign for inhabitants of the Municipality of Bucharest, using the infrastructure of Metrorex and the Public Transportation Company in Bucharest.

10 October



We co-organized the first of two round tables in partnership with the Labor and Social Protection Commission from the Chamber of Deputies.

3 March



We addressed the topic of "Trafficking in persons for labor exploitation, particularly children in South Eastern Europe" within the UNODC Regional Expert Group Meeting.

4 April



We started the training sessions targeting social workers and auxiliary social field personnel within the Municipality of Bucharest Direction of Social Services.

6 June



The eLiberare model for empowering priests, religious communities and professors in detecting and notifying potential human trafficking cases was recognised internationally, by the United Nations University, as good practice model, through the global learning platform Delta 8.7.

5 May



eLiberare organized the event "Leveraging the Power of Partnerships in the Fight against Human Trafficking: How Can Traditional and Unlikely Allies Help?". This online event was held during the High Level Meeting of the General Assembly for the Appraisal of the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Human Trafficking.

11 November



eLiberare secured the funding to hire an expert-by-experience, therefore piloting a new program for the professional reintegration of victims of human trafficking.

12 December





Preventive **Education**

1. Educational Programme

The educational pack to prevent trafficking in persons is a worktool which was purposefully created to be used in schools. The resource pack is formed of a material that contains all the necessary theoretical information to provide a course (description of the phenomenon, types of exploitation, a comparative analysis of victim vs. trafficker, official statistics, etc.), a PowerPoint presentation and a short video.

The programme was launched in 2016 and it targets students exclusively. Therefore, we create the context through which the target group is informed related to the severity of the phenomenon, and with this contributing to raising awareness.

The educational pack is distributed in schools, having the Minister of Education's approval.

Statistics for the educational programme:



1,183

involved **schools**



165,801

involved **students**



7,794

involved **teachers**



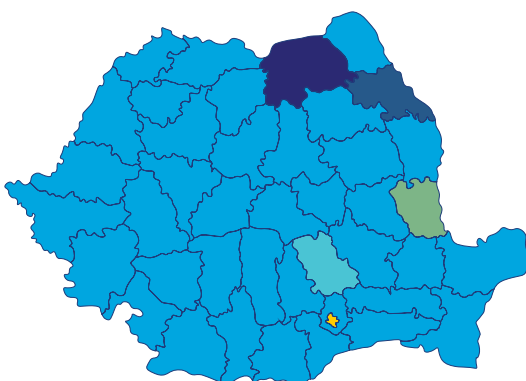
344

schools in **urban** areas



839

schools in **rural** areas



41 counties plus Bucharest
Top counties:

- Bucharest - **67** signed agreements
- Prahova - **64** signed agreements
- Suceava - **56** signed agreements
- Galați - **55** signed agreements
- Iași - **55** signed agreements



Feedback

“ The reason I chose to provide this curriculum to the class was motivated by a past experience in which a former student became a victim of human trafficking . She was cheated through the Loverboy method and was moved abroad.

Teacher from GALAȚI

“ I chose this subject because it is spreading, it can often be seen in our society today. My goal through this activity was to help the students be aware of the dangers of this phenomenon and learn how to protect themselves.

Teacher from BRĂILA

“ I chose this subject because I consider that the young people should be aware of the trafficking in persons issue. At the beginning of the lesson the students argued that they are not seeing this issue close to them, but by the end of the lesson they realized that things are not exactly how it seemed. Moreover they recognized it is possible they met exploited people and not be aware of this fact

Teacher from BUCUREȘTI

2. Sessions in schools

Because we recognize the importance of education in preventing trafficking in persons, and also the fact that young people represent a voice in their peer-to-peer groups, we consider that direct interaction with them is a key component in our activity.

On many occasions we were able to observe children's and young people's predisposition to do good, and so we made sure we offer concrete information related to the phenomenon but also reassuring them that they can always benefit from specialized support from team eLiberare. Thus, we offer peer-to-peer prevention of the phenomenon, by creating a supplementary system of defense when facing the danger.



16
sessions

500
students

5
educational units



Capacity **Building**

2075 participants, 48 sessions

Training Sessions

1. Training Sessions for **Police Agents** (including **Local Police, Border Police**)



80 participants

4 sessions

Locations: Sinaia, online

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking

Law enforcement represents the category most likely to encounter a potential victim of human trafficking. Knowing and recognising the main indicators of exploitation can determine how the officers handle the case.

2. Training Sessions for **Social Workers and Social Work Students**



308 participants

8 sessions

Locations: Bucharest, online

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking and how to address trauma from a victimological perspective

Social workers are among the first people who come into contact with a potential victim of human trafficking or a survivor. For this reason, training social workers in understanding trauma as a defining event in the psychological journey of the victim is very important.

3. Training Sessions for **Emergency Line Operators**



42 participants

2 sessions

Locations: Bucharest

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking and how to address trauma from a victimological perspective

In most of the cases, the emergency line dispatcher represents a key contact for potential victims, regardless of their destination. Knowing and recognizing the indicators of human trafficking can contribute decisively to the rescue of an exploited person or a person in process of being recruited through immediate referral to the authorities.

4. Training Sessions for **Youth**



93 participants

4 sessions

Locations: Buşteni, Prahova County and online

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking and how to address trauma from a victimological perspective

Young people, students in particular, have an important role in the process of early detection of human trafficking. They become ambassadors for the cause in their peer-to-peer groups.

5. Training Sessions for **the Religious Communities**



261 participants

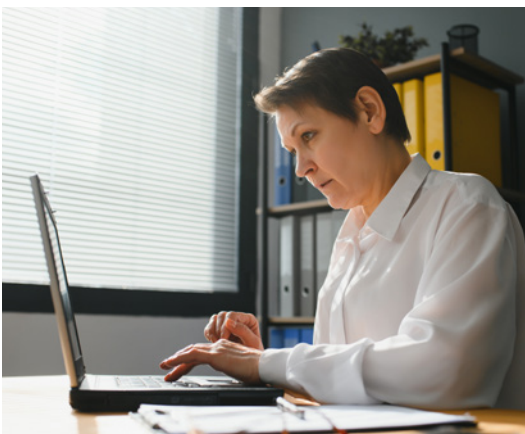
6 sessions online

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking and how to address trauma from a victimological perspective

The priests and the religious communities, through the activity they carried out, are in permanent contact with other people. Faith represents a key factor in establishing a relationship of trust

Moreover, half of the Romanian population is located in the rural area (**56%**) where the Church has a big influence at the community level. Also, according to the National Institute of Statistics, in 2017, in Romania there were **16.400** Orthodox Churches. Thus, empowering priests in recognising indicators of different forms of exploitation is vital for early detection of human trafficking.

6. Training Sessions for **Public Notaries**



19 participants

1 sessions online

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking

The sessions included a training for public notaries to help them recognise indicators of human trafficking, and an exchange of good practice models that can be the foundation of a safety mechanism to verify the means by which minors leave the country.

7. Training Sessions for **Volunteers**



22 participants

1 online training session

Locations: Bucharest

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking

Preparing volunteers in human trafficking prevention contributes implicitly to a quick detection of indicators. Volunteers can become a loud voice for this cause in the communities they belong to or where they are active.

National and international reports show an increase of exploitation incidence in children who are in foster care. Under the basis of our partnership with Ajungem Mari we are contributing to training volunteers who work directly with children in foster care facilities, helping them in identifying indicators and therefore preventing the phenomenon.

8. Training Sessions for **Teachers**



1153 participants

3 online sessions

Training: Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking

We recognise the role a teacher has in the professional development of a pupil. But are they prepared to act in preventing a potential exploitation situation?

According to the 2020 ANITP Report, the average age of recruitment for minor victims is **14**. We consider, therefore, that many of the victims were lured while in school. During our training sessions we contribute to building capacity for professors in proactive identification of the phenomenon and preparing them to act in case they are faced with a potential exploitation case.

9. Training Sessions for **Other Categories**



97 participants

5 online training sessions

Training: How to recognize indicators of human trafficking

We believe in our model of preventing human trafficking by building barriers in front of this phenomenon. In this way, the empowerment of the local action groups, to understand the context in which human trafficking exists in Romania, became a priority in 2021.

10. Webinar for the **Women Lawyers Association**



On December 17th, we were invited by the European Women Lawyers Association to host a webinar for their members on the topic of human trafficking. We presented the general information about human trafficking and moderated a debate on the role of lawyers in fighting human trafficking and how we can involve more specialists in this matter.



Assistance

1. Direct Assistance

1.1 The Center for Assistance and Information for the Detection of Human Trafficking Cases

On July 6, 2021 we had the official opening of the Center for Assistance and Information for the Detection of Human Trafficking Cases. The center acts as a bridge between authorities and citizens, and through it we aim to contribute to the development of proactive identification in small communities.

The small number of cases of human trafficking that are reported and identified in Romania, compared to the situation estimated by international organizations, is a problem with multiple causes. The Center aims to address this issue by performing the following specialized services:

- Informing the general public about human trafficking;
- Offering assistance in identifying and notifying human trafficking cases;
- Counseling vulnerable individuals, victims or third parties;
- Offering crisis intervention by ensuring the basic necessities (emergency kit containing the essentials, food and accommodation);
- Referring cases according to the needs of the beneficiaries to specialized social work services;
- Identifying and detecting support needs via text line at **0757 749 845**;
- Providing a direct notification, of complex cases of trafficking in persons, to the competent authorities.

In 2021, **21** people were counseled and **9** cases were send as notification to the competent authorities (National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons, Office for Combating Organized Crime, National Authority for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Children and Adoptions, General Directorate of Social Assistance of the Municipality of Bucharest, Romanian Police).

1.2 Crisis textline for **Reporting Potential Cases of Human Trafficking**

Any suspicion of human trafficking can be reported by calling or texting **0757 749 845**.

Since the launch and up to now, 8 potential cases have been reported, of which one case of sexual exploitation has been reported to the authorities.



88 - Total number of calls / messages
58 - Total number of unique callers
7 - Begging cases
1 - Cases of sexual exploitation
0 - Labor exploitation cases
19 - Other non-trafficking situations (pranks, scams, bank problems, social cases, financial problems, etc.)

2. External Assistance

2.1 External **Assistance** and **Psychotherapy**

The assistance program in shelters that host survivors of human trafficking continued in 2021 to the extent that the pandemic conditions allowed. Thus, the counseling sessions were moved online.

A total number of **39**
Psychotherapy Sessions



2.1 Aripri Magazine



Available in RO, EN and FR

200 magazines distributed in shelters for survivors

20 survivors involved

20 mentors involved

10 meetings

The second issue of ARIPI Magazine appeared as an answer to the question "What do I do after I get out of the exploitation situation?". The focus was on the professional journey of a survivor, starting with writing a resume and a letter of intent, all the way to interviews with specialists in various fields. The concept of the magazine was framed during several meetings with human trafficking survivors, coordinated by mentors, specialized in various fields. ARIPI Magazine was produced by eLiberare and Missio Link International, with the support of the French Institute in Romania, located in Timișoara, and Child 10.

Feedback

“ I am amazed every time I enter a center for vulnerable people and every time I talk to a survivor of abuse. What fascinates me most is the strength with which they choose to move forward and the small steps they take each time, even if it is often extremely difficult for them to get up and start over. They are truly a source of inspiration, full of enthusiasm and ready to change the world wherever they go.

CRISTINA AFTENII, ELIBERARE

“ Congratulations first of all to the girls for their courage and teamwork, for the effort they made to rediscover their personality and for showing through this collective exercise that they have a personal and professional future ahead of them.

TILLA RUDEL, DELEGATE DIRECTOR OF THE FRENCH INSTITUTE IN ROMANIA IN TIMISOARA



Advocacy **and Public Policies**

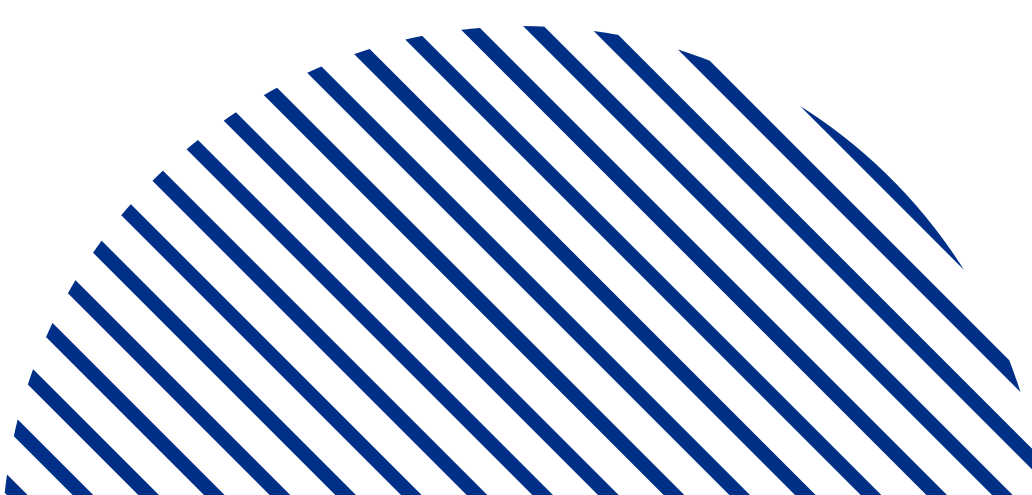
1. Consolidating the **ProTECT Platform as founder and co-chair**

In 2021, we dedicated a significant amount of time and resources to developing ProTECT, the platform of 21 non-profit specialized organizations that was founded in 2020. eLiberare has facilitated the creation of the by-laws as well as the overall strategy of the Platform. As co-chairs of ProTECT we represented the platform in various events and high-level meetings and we also coordinated the public positions of the Platform, together with the other members of ProTECT.

Under the ProTECT umbrella we co-organized **two round tables**, one that took place in the Palace of Parliament, on March 18th, and the other one took place online in September. Both conferences were organized in partnership with the Labor and Social Protection Commission from the Chamber of Deputies. The events were attended by Anca Dragu, President of the Romanian Senate, E.S. Andrew Noble, Ambassador of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Romania, representatives of the Government, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and other national authorities and Romanian MPs.

During 2021, ProTECT has elaborated a series of Public Positions on different topics such as the National Strategy on the Management of Seized Assets, the TIP Report and Romania being on the TIER 2 Watchlist, and also a public position on the Statutory Rape Age. We also co-organized two face-to-face ProTECT meetings during 2021 and we engaged a great number of partners and representatives from the National Agency Against Human Trafficking, the Bureau Against Organized Crime, the Ministry of Justice, the National Agency for Equality, the Municipality of Bucharest, the US Embassy, and the UK Embassy.

ProTECT also released in 2021 the first Report regarding the impact of the pandemic on the efforts of NGOs working to provide specialized assistance to victims of human trafficking.



2. UNODC Regional **Expert Group Meetings**

eLiberare has been invited by the UNODC to participate in the Regional **Expert Group Meetings** organized online and to share our perspectives on different topics:

→ **March 3 - 4th**

We discussed on Civil society Practices on Provision of Protection and Assistance for Victims of Human Trafficking. We have touched upon 3 subjects: the accessibility of the services offered, the sustainability of the existing services, and the relevance of the services.

→ **April 13 - 14th**

We addressed the topic of "Trafficking in persons for labor exploitation, particularly children in South Eastern Europe".

→ **May 11 - 12th**

We participated in the REGM on "Trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation, especially women and girls, through addressing demand in South-Eastern Europe". We held a speech where we presented the civil society perspective and pointed out the efforts we are undergoing at this point.

→ **June 9 - 10th**

We tackled the topic of "Addressing trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation through international cooperation".

3. Romanian Ortodox **Church Partnership**

The long-term partnership with the Romanian Orthodox Church and the Filantropia Federation has evolved during 2021 with a new strategic direction, developing a Guidebook for priests. Together with International Justice Mission we presented our idea in front of the Filantropia Federation General Assembly and participated in **The Priests Forum Against Human Trafficking**. The Forum aimed to gather the representatives of the Ortodox Church from Romania to discuss a set of resources for priests. We worked closely with our partners from the Filantropia Foundation and IJM to elaborate a guidebook about human trafficking, which is going to be adopted by the National Assembly of the Romanian Ortodox Church and then distributed to all priests in the country in 2022.

4. Partnership with the Municipality of Bucharest

eLiberare has consolidated a partnership with the Municipality of Bucharest. We had several meetings at different levels with representatives from the Bucharest City Hall (Vice-Mayor office, Local Police office, the Department of Social Services, the School Inspectorate) in order to establish an integrated intervention plan in Bucharest. The plan includes collaboration at all levels on prevention, identification and referral, protection and reintegration. We also worked on specific procedures to implement at the municipal level and to ensure we have all types of services addressed to victims.

This past year we were also involved in the early development of the Local Strategy for Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction for the Municipality of Bucharest, the chapter dedicated to human trafficking. In this regard we participated in the public consultations process and also elaborated a set of recommendations on what should be included in the local Strategy. The cooperation with DGASMB has been in a process of continuous development and it presently includes collaboration for assisting victims and cooperation for the detection and notification of cases.

5. Participation in the "Caring for our children" Governmental Program

eLiberare has been consulted by the Romanian Government, the Prime-Minister's office and participated in the working group called "Safety for Children" where we worked together with representatives from various ministries (Ministry of Education, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labor, National Agency for Child Protection etc.) and other stakeholders like the National Students Council, on the elaboration of a detailed plan on how to keep children safe online and offline. The document informed the Governmental representatives and was the basis for a Governmental Decision adopted in September 2021

The main concerning measures are the following:

- Toll-free number for situations of violence, abuse, neglect or exploitation of children.
- Schools will have safeguarding policies and de-escalation techniques, as well as lessons on physical, emotional, domestic, sexual and online violence.
- A real-time missing child alert system, which will significantly increase the chances of a minor being found, if implemented accordingly.
- Significant funding will be allocated for cyber forensics software and hardware, a measure designed specifically for better addressing OSEC cases that in Romania have reached alarming levels during the pandemic.

The Child10 Award

eLiberare was one of the Child10 Awarded Members in 2021, a group of dedicated organizations fighting against trafficking and sexual exploitation of children in Europe. An exceptional group of 10 organizations were chosen, out of the 90 nominees from 27 different countries. During our journey with Child10 we have participated in several workshops and meetings organized in the course of the year and we received support and consultancy from Applied Value, a world-class management consulting and investment firm based in New York.

We also participated in a debate with Members of the European Parliament, where we presented the work we do in Romania and stressed the need to coordinate our efforts in fighting trafficking in person at European level.

eLiberare joined the Child10 Awarded Member Organizations in Stockholm for a Summit, between October 17th and 20th. During the three days event we discussed ways in which we can strengthen each other in our work and create sustainable organizations and durable solutions to end child trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. We also had a seminar at the Royal Palace together with H.M. Queen Silvia's "Care About the Children" Foundation where we highlighted the importance of the work of the CSO sector in this field and the need for stronger collaboration and cooperation between sectors.

On October 18th, the EU Anti-Trafficking Day, H.M. Queen Silvia handed out the Diploma to the eLiberare team, during the Ceremony at the Palace.



The Power of Partnerships in Fighting Human Trafficking

On November 22nd, we organized a side-event "Leveraging the Power of Partnerships in the Fight against Human Trafficking: How Can Traditional and Unlikely Allies Help?", during the High Level Meeting of the General Assembly for the Appraisal of the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Human Trafficking. The event agenda included John Cotton Richmond - former US Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Iulia Motoc - Judge at the European Court of Human Rights, Anna Ekstedt - Ambassador-at-Large

for Combating Trafficking in Persons Sweden, Marie Ringler – Ashoka Europe leader, Richard Pugh-Cook – SOCnet Regional Coordinator for the South Asia region and Summer Walker – Global Initiative’s New York Representative. We had participants from all over the world attending the online event, from different institutions, NGOs, UN representatives and others. The speakers touched upon many important issues, such as partnerships for early identification, addressing demand, the role of different stakeholders including for example the medical staff, and the universal prevention model. We also had discussions about the importance of having the voices of survivors at the table and also about our individual duty to notify potential cases. We were presented specific cases from the justice system and talked about victim-centered approaches.

UK-RO Parliamentary Friendship Group Dialogue

We delivered a presentation on Human Trafficking for a number of UK and Romanian MPs on October 22nd. We were invited by the UK Embassy to deliver a speech on the challenges (including the legislative ones) encountered by the civil society when addressing human trafficking. The event was held online and we shared the floor with the Human Trafficking Foundation from the UK. At the end of the event we asked and answered questions to the MPs in the call.



6. Foreign **Governments Briefings**

eLiberare has strengthened partnerships with Embassies in 2021 we had several meetings with different stakeholders in various Embassies to discuss plans to cooperate in the future. We talked about our projects and current priorities and how we can continue to cooperate on specific cases and also at policy level and expertise sharing. Among the embassies we cooperate with are the Dutch Embassy, the U.S Embassy, the U.K. Embassy, the Swedish Embassy, the Spanish Embassy and the French Embassy. We have also participated in various briefings on the TIP Report topic and presented our recommendations and input.

7. Interinstitutional Working Group for the **Protection of Victims of Crime, Ministry of Justice**

eLiberare has participated in the Working Group organized by the Ministry of Justice where we discussed the protection of victims of crime. The Group is discussing topics such as inter-institutional cooperation and other aspects related to the protection of victims, such as establishing specialized local police units, training the people working with abused minors and other legislative aspects that are now in public debate.

8. Medical Services **for Victims**

Upon the invitation of the State Counselor in the Prime Minister's Office we took part in the Working Group to discuss medical services for victims. Other participants included ANITP representatives, Ministry of Health representatives and other structures under the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other institutions. The outcome of the discussions was a working plan to develop a set of materials for medical staff, to train medical personnel and create partnerships between various institutions to ensure cooperation and access to services for victims. This is a strategic direction in which eLiberare has invested resources and developed a specialized curriculum for the medical field, engaging survivors in its creation.

9. Delta 8.7 – eLiberare model for **detecting and notifying trafficking cases**

The **eLiberare** model for empowering priests, religious communities and teachers to detect and report potential cases of human trafficking has been recognized internationally and promoted as good practice by the United Nations University through the global learning platform Delta 8.7.

10. Legislative **changes:**

→ **No Statute of Limitation for human trafficking and other related crimes**

A significant change within the Romanian law and a major legislative win for the field – The Criminal Code was amended and now all crimes like trafficking in persons, slavery, trafficking of minors, rape, sexual assault and abuse are no longer prescriptible. That means cases where the perpetrators were left with no punishment because the criminal procedures took too long are now over. eLiberare has followed the legislative process closely and has stayed in close connection with the initiator of the law regarding the content of the proposal.

→ **Legislation on the Statutory Rape Age to 16**

Towards the end of 2021 several members of the Romanian parliament initiated a legislation proposal on the age of consent regarding any acts of sexual nature committed by an adult against a minor. The initial proposal was that all sexual acts with minors under the age of 14 would be considered rape. We were invited in the public consultation debates, and we drafted a Public Position where, with the endorsement of the ProTECT Platform we supported a draft amendment for the minimum age to become 16 years old. Currently we are closely monitoring the legislative process, at this moment the law is pending approval in the Chamber of Senate and then it will go to the Chamber of Deputies.



Awareness **Campaigns**

Offline

Starting in the month of October, we launched the offline informative campaign dedicated to the citizens of Bucharest, through which we promoted the main indicators for **detecting different types of exploitation** (sexual exploitation, forced labor and forced begging). The campaign was implemented through the **infrastructure provided by the Bucharest Transport Company and Metrorex**, with the **support of the Bucharest City Hall**. Thus, video-posters were displayed inside all above ground means of public transportation and in all the subway stations. The video lasted 30 seconds and ran once an hour in the subway stations. During the campaign, the metro stations were attended by **5,584,690 people**, according to the Metrorex report. The campaign ran from October 15 to November 18, 2021.

Online

1. ENDITMovement

7
embassies
involved

13
non-governmental
organizations

21,362
informed persons

#InitToEndIt is what we said as we joined together with seven embassies and thirteen non-governmental organizations on February 25, 2021, as part of the global End It Movement awareness campaign. This joint awareness-raising effort added to the specific activities that the embassies involved in Romania carried out together with civil society partners and state institutions, such as training sessions, experience exchange programs, information campaigns, support for reintegration and increased attention on the phenomenon in their interactions with Romanian state institutions.

“ Trafficking in persons and all forms of child exploitation are a horrific abuse of human rights and affect each and every one of us. Wherever it occurs, human trafficking violates every one of our values. The fight against trafficking must unite us all in protecting our most vulnerable citizens.

E.S. Annick Goulet, Embassy of Canada in Romania

“ The Israeli Embassy in Romania is joining the #StopSlavery campaign with determination. Throughout history, our people have faced many tragedies. From ancient times until just a few decades ago, when our brothers and sisters were exploited by a regime that considered them worthless slaves. A constant promotion of this topic, through education and understanding are the ways in which we can build a brighter future together. We invite you all to come together and say "No!" to human trafficking and modern slavery.

E.S. David Saranga, Embassy of Israel in Romania

“ The Swedish Embassy strongly supports the efforts to combat human trafficking. This is a global issue and we support. #EndItMovement

E.S. Therese Hydén, Embassy of Sweden in Romania

2. Partner embassies



British Embassy
Bucharest



Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité



Ambasada Statului Israel
in ROMANIA

Canada



UDENRIGSMINISTERIET
Danmark i Rumænien



Kingdom of the Netherlands

3. Partner NGOs



Catholic Action in Romania

Act Integration Association

Soli Deo Gloria Foundation



INVESTING IN THE PRESENT,
CHANGING THE FUTURE!



4. Social Media Campaigns

• Resilience

Dezvoltarea rezilienței devine o oportunitate pentru fiecare din noi. Află cum poți face asta pe perioada pandemiei de COVID-19. Trăim niște vremuri pe care majoritatea dintre noi nu le-am mai experimentat până acum. Stresul cumulat la care suntem expuși și trauma colectivă în fața acestei pandemii ne afectează pe toți, în moduri pe cât de diferite, pe atât de similare. Ce ne poate ajuta pe fiecare este dezvoltarea rezilienței.



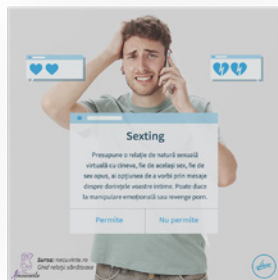
• The power of words

Limbajul este o unealtă puternică care are capacitatea de a construi și încuraja, însă și puterea de a dărâma și înfrânge. În ceea ce privește combaterea fenomenului traficului de persoane la nivel global, limbajul are un impact puternic în modul în care oamenii răspund în fața acestei probleme.

Din păcate, multe dintre cuvintele pe care le folosim în limbajul curent pentru a descrie traficul de persoane perpetuează stereotipuri, distorsionează definiția fenomenului, provoacă daune și îi împiedică pe cei care au fost exploatați să acceseze servicii și asistența de care au nevoie. De exemplu, un reportaj care folosește termeni precum "prostituată", "rețele de proxenetism" va trezi publicului mai degrabă repulsia, decât empatia față de tinerele exploatare sexual, implicate fără voia lor în rețele de trafic de persoane. Astfel se accentuează ideea că "mie nu mi se poate întâmpla" și "nu am nicio responsabilitate față de situația prezentată". De asemenea, se creează falsa impresie că "prostituția" este o identitate și nu o experiență traumatică, cu efecte pe termen lung în viața persoanei traficate.



• Online security promotion

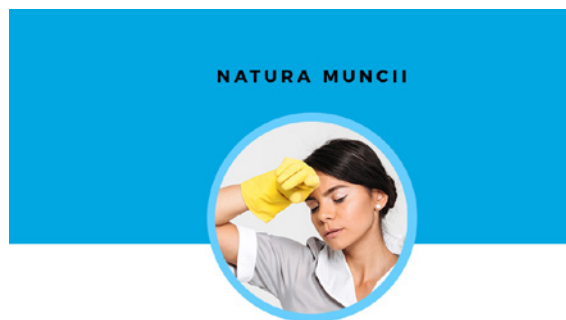


- **Campaign to prevent labor exploitation**



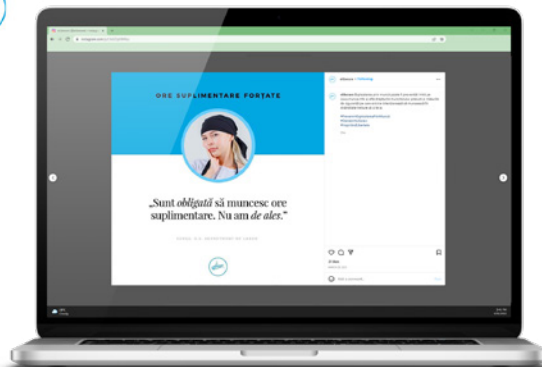
„Nu am voie să ies sau să comunic cu *nimeni* din afară.”

SURSA: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



“ Munca pe care trebuie să o fac este *complet diferită* de ce mi s-a spus când am *acceptat*.”

SURSA: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



- **Campaign to promote fundamental human rights**

eliberare.com 06

Dreptul la comunicare.

Victimele traficului de persoane sunt izolate social, li se limitează/interzice contactul cu familia și prietenii, le sunt sechestrate actele de identitate, telefoanele sau computerele, le este interzisă corespondența.

Dreptul la libertate și securitate personală

Victimele traficului de persoane nu au libertate de mișcare. În majoritatea cazurilor suferă abuzuri fizice, psihologice, emoționale, economice.

0

• Profession Campaign – indicators of human trafficking

Investește în oameni

Oferă un loc de muncă și dă șansa la o viață normală unui supraviețuitor al traficului de persoane.



EȘTI ANTREPRENOR?

Lucrezi într-un ADĂPOST
pentru SUPRAVIEȚUITORI ?



Supraviețuitorii traficului de persoane au un nivel foarte scăzut al încrederii, nu doar în persoana proprie ci și în ceilalți. **Construiește încredere!**



EȘTI JURNALIST
și scrii despre
TRAFICUL DE PERSOANE?

Nu căuta titluri senzaționale!
Nu eticheta persoanele implicate. Relatează faptele, folosește cu precizie și atenție terminologia, amintește-ți că persoanele exploatare sunt oameni și nu obiecte!



- "Know the warning signs"



- "Definitions"



- #PROACTIV

Traficul de persoane este sclavia erei moderne, în care unii oameni profită de pe urma controlului și a exploatării altora, în timp ce victimele sunt ascunse sub ochii noștri.

România este o țară care a pierdut milioane de oameni în dauna nivelului mai bun de trai din vestul Europei. Din păcate, acest exod nu se produce fără victime. Pentru zeci de mii de persoane, visul unei vieți mai bune a devenit o momeală ce i-a făcut vulnerabili în fața traficanților de persoane. Astfel, România a devenit principala țară sursă de victime din Europa. Numărul mic de cazuri de trafic de persoane raportate și identificate în România în raport cu situația estimată de organizațiile internaționale reprezintă o problemă cu cauze multiple.



#PROACTIV

Recunoaște traficul de persoane

» Persoanei exploatare i se refuză
dreptul la libertatea de expresie,
de gândire sau de religie.

Proiect derulat de:



- "Myths"



 Iceland
 Liechtenstein
 Norway



 Active
 citizens fund




eLiberare
 @AsociațiaeLiberare
 Traficanții recrutează persoane pe care nu le cunosc. #Mit
 17 Tweets 24 Quote Tweets 148 Likes




 Iceland
 Liechtenstein
 Norway


 Active
 citizens fund



eLiberare
 @AsociațiaeLiberare
 Sclavia nu mai există astăzi. #Mit
 17 Tweets 24 Quote Tweets 148 Likes



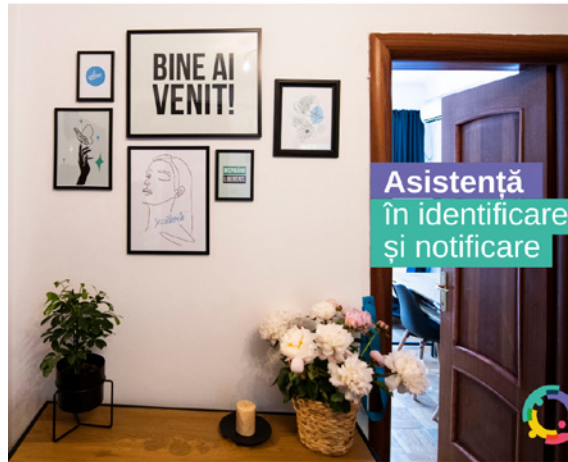
• "Center Services"

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
Active
citizens fund



Proiect derulat de:

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
Active
citizens fund



Proiect derulat de:

• "Yes / No"

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
Active
citizens fund



Proiect derulat de:

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway
Active
citizens fund



Proiect derulat de:



eLiberare in media

42

52 media appearances (4 TV, 2 radio, 46 press)

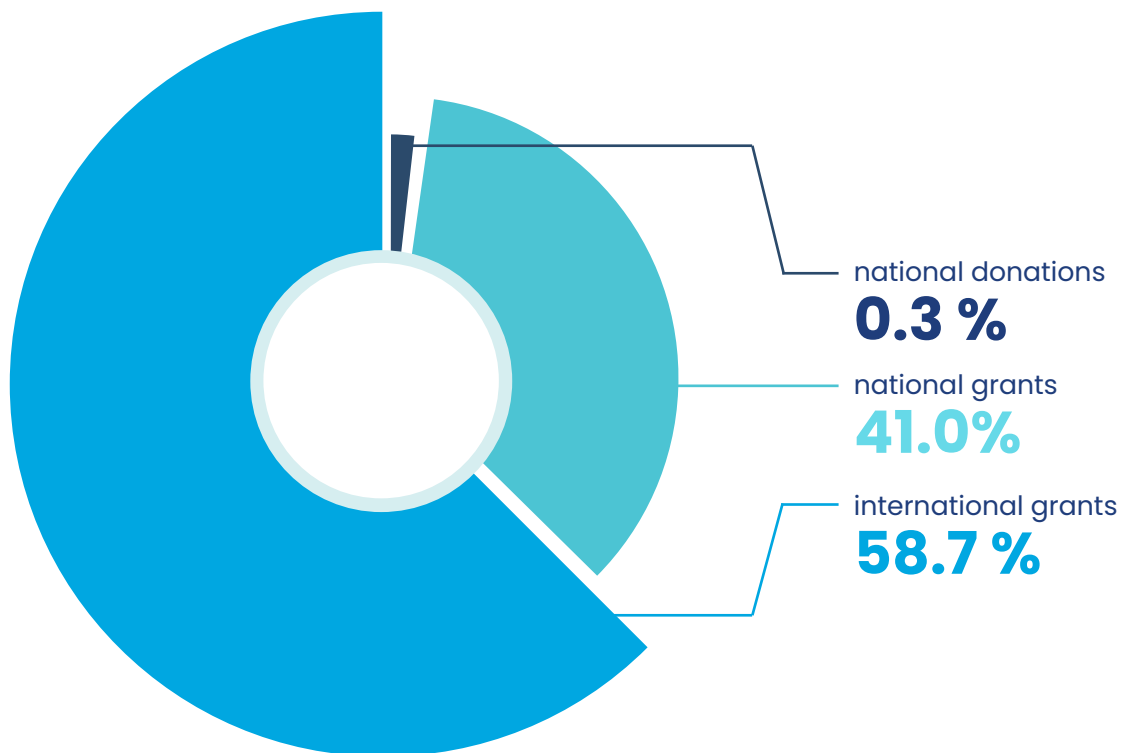


Sclavia modernă pleacă de la visul unei vieți mai bune:
„Știam, dar niciodată n-am crezut că mi se poate întâmpla mie”

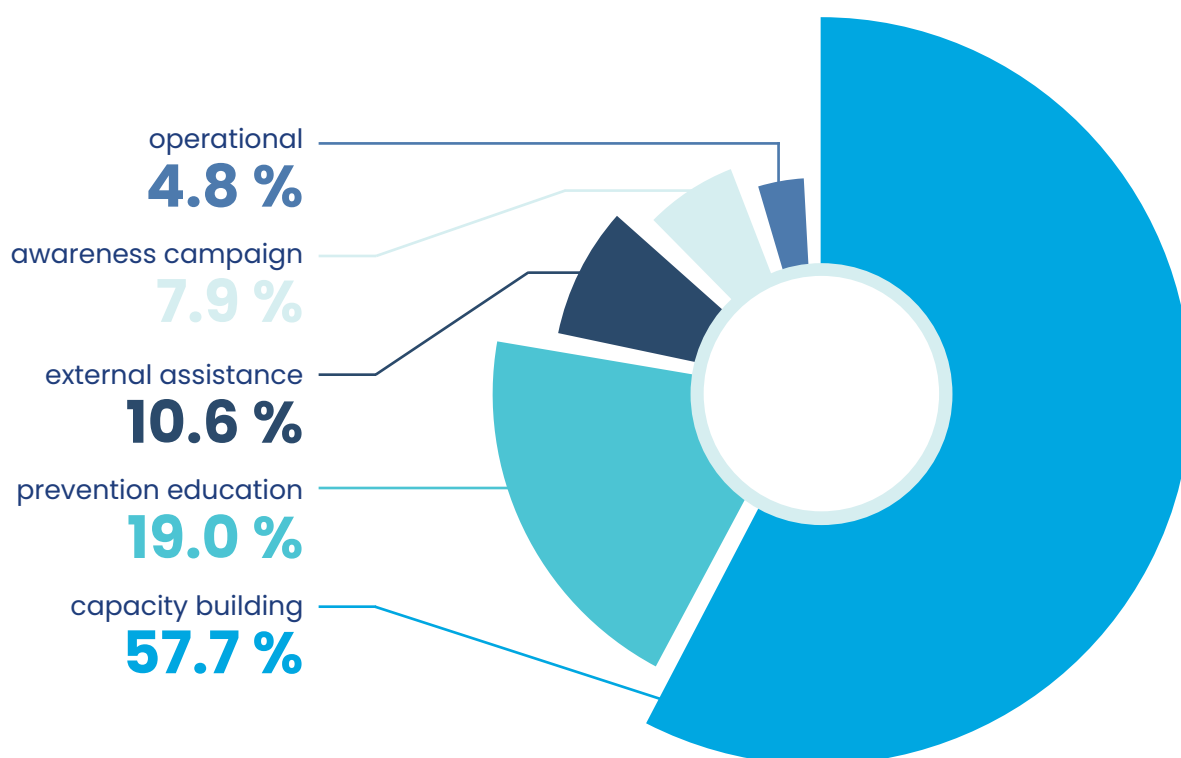


Financial

Main income sources for 2021



Main expense categories in 2021



Acknowledgments



Kingdom of the Netherlands

CHILD10

Institutions:



MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI



MINISTERUL JUSTIȚIEI



Primăria Capitalei



MINISTERUL MUNCII ȘI PROTECȚIEI SOCIALE
Autoritatea Națională pentru Drepturile
Persoanelor cu Dizabilități, Copii și Adopții



Organizations:



GLOBAL
INITIATIVE



RESILIENCE
FUND



ProTECT NGOs:



Partners and collaborators:



Media Partners:



