



**GLOBAL  
INITIATIVE**

AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL  
ORGANIZED CRIME

**HLPF 2025 SIDE EVENT**

# EMERGING CHALLENGES IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## RISKS TO GENDER EQUALITY & DECENT WORK

**21 July 2025  
09.00–10.00 EST**

**VIRTUAL EVENT**

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TO JOIN ONLINE**



Permanent Mission of Norway  
to the United Nations



Misión Permanente de Colombia  
ante la ONU en Nueva York



Permanent Mission of Japan  
to the United Nations

At this year's HLPF, governments will review SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; and SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

These goals recognize that ending human trafficking is essential to achieving their aims. Human trafficking has an outsized impact on women and girls, and eliminating it is crucial for achieving SDG 5. In addition, we cannot provide decent work for all while people are forced to work without choice, through coercion and threats.

This side event will focus on the SDG 5 and SDG 8 targets relating to human trafficking, assessing trends and emerging challenges. Participants will hear from governments, UN agencies and civil society organizations about the risks to achieving these goals and how to respond to them.

### WELCOME REMARKS

- HE Ambassador Merete Fjeld Brattested, Permanent Representative to the UN, Permanent Mission of Norway to the UN
- HE Ambassador Leonor Zalabata, Permanent Representative to the UN, Permanent Mission of Colombia to the UN
- H.E. Ambassador Umetsu Shigeru, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations (Video Message)

### PANEL

- Livia Wagner, Thematic Lead on Human Trafficking, GI-TOC
- Delphine Schantz, Director of UNODC Liaison Office in New York, UNODC
- Luciana Aguiar, Senior Adviser with the UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub and Global Adviser to the Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST) Initiative, UNDP
- Christine Kirabo, Human Rights Lawyer and Legal Programme Officer, African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS)
- Kristina Amerhauser, Senior Analyst, GI-TOC
- Moderator: Ian Tennant, Director of Multilateral Engagement, GI-TOC

**5**

**GENDER  
EQUALITY**



**Target 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

**8**

**DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH**



**Target 8.7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.