Human Trafficking into Peacekeeping Areas: The Cases of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

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Abstract

This thesis deals with human trafficking into peacekeeping areas, and especially the paradoxical link between a peacekeeping mission and intensified human trafficking to a host country: it has been proved that arrival and presence of international personnel increase the demand for trafficked persons, nevertheless, peacekeeping personnel is also found to be involved in sexual exploitation and abuse against the local population, including human trafficking mainly for forced prostitution. International community acknowledged and addressed this issue in early 2000s by adopting various instruments prohibiting sexual exploitation and abuse by international staff. Gender mainstreaming policies are now also included in the mandates of peacekeeping missions.

The main focus of the thesis is to analyse and compare the effects of two UN peacekeeping missions to Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) and Kosovo (UNMIK). The case study is conducted in order to examine the trends of human trafficking, and adequacy and effectiveness of international and national policies and other measures taken to address this issue and combat human trafficking into peacekeeping areas.

The thesis concludes that there was a strong link between increased human trafficking and the presence of international personnel in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo. Nevertheless, peacekeeping personnel were alleged of sexual exploitation against local population. Finally, gender mainstreaming policy is recommended as one of the best approach to address this issue.
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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AI  Amnesty International
BiH  Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH is divided into two entities and one district – the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska, and Brcko district)
CDU  UN Conduct and Discipline Unit
CEDAW  Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CivPol  UN Civilian Police monitors
CoE  Council of Europe
CWINF  Committee on Women in the NATO forces
DFS  UN Department of Field Support
DPKO  UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DRC  Democratic Republic of Congo
EU  European Union
HRW  Human Rights Watch
ICCPR  International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR  International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICMPD  International Centre for Migration Policy Development
ILO  International Labour Organisation
IOM  International Organisation for Migration
IPTF  UN International Police Task Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina
NATO  North Atlantic Treaty Association
NGO  non-governmental organisation
ODIHR  OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
OHCHR  UN Office of High Commissioner on Human Rights
OIOS  UN Office of Internal Oversight Services
OSCE  Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PCCK  Provisional Criminal Code of Kosovo
SC  UN Security Council
SEA  sexual exploitation and abuse
SFOR  NATO-led Stabilisation Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina
SG  UN Secretary-General
SOPs  Standard Operational Procedures
SPTF  Stability Pact Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings
SRSG  Special Representative of the Secretary-General
STOP  UNMIBH Special Trafficking Operations Program
TIP Report  U.S. State Department Trafficking in Persons Report
TPIU  UNMIK Police Trafficking and Prostitution Unit
TRMs  Transnational Referral Mechanisms
UN  United Nations
UNHCR  United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF  UN Children’s Fund
UNIFEM  UN Development Fund for Women
UN.GIFT  United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking
UNMIBH  United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina
UNMIK  United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UNODC  United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
U.S.  The United States of America
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