

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

8 Sept 2026

9.00-17.30 (British time)

Virtual conference

Links available below

Conference Program

Convening Committee:

Ms Stephanie Baroud (Criminal Intelligence Analyst, Human Trafficking and Migrant Unit, INTERPOL)

Mr Isaac Espinosa-Delgado (Criminal Intelligence Analyst, Human Trafficking and Migrant Unit, INTERPOL)

Ms Michala Meiselles, Senior Law Lecturer (Derby University)

Professor Mark Button, Co-Director of Centre for Cybercrime and Economic Crime (Portsmouth University)

Organising Committee:

Ms Tracy Bradford

Dr Francesca Vitarelli

Dr Nina Hart

Dr Meera Mathew

Ms Lorraine Lally

Mr Ramachandra Oviode Siou

This international, inter-institutional conference organised with the support of INTERPOL and hosted by Derby University, in partnership with University of Portsmouth and supported by the International Society of Economic Criminology. It explores, discusses and investigates the phenomena of modern slavery and human trafficking.

For all queries, please email Michala Meiselles, Senior Law Lecturer (Derby University) m.meiselles@derby.ac.uk

Conference opening and plenary session (9.00-11.15)

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/335963108590333?p=cM7Y7L43NvcHsnQoYn>

Chair: Nina Hart

9.00-9.05	Housekeeping:
-----------	---------------

9.05-9.40	Keynote Speech: Ms Stephanie Baroud and Mr Isaac Espinosa-Delgado
9.40-10.00	Chamika and Yanuarti, The Fight Against Human Trafficking in the Eyes of LEE
10.00-10.15	Phan Ngoc Gia, State-Owned Enterprises and Forced Labour Regulation in ASEAN Belt Road
10.15-10.30	Cauton and Wong, Working Toward Clear Articulation of ASEAN Victim Identification Evidence Threshold
10.30-10.45	Magherescu, Criteria for Determining the Assessment of Victims
10.45-11.15	Q&A

Parallel sessions (11.15-13.30)		
Topic: Labour Exploitation Chair: Francesca Vitarelli (link for online participants)		Topic: Digital Investigations https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/335963108590333?p=cM7Y7L43NvcHsnQoYn Chair: Meera Mathew
11.15-11.30	Hapek, Beyond Kafala: Protection Gaps for Migrant Domestic Workers in Iraq	Chouradia, The Influence of Artificial Intelligence on Human Trafficking in 2026
11.30-11.45	Fatima and Rajsingh, Counterclaims, Modern Slavery, and Investor Accountability in South Asian Investment Agreements	L'Hoiry, Embedding critical reflective practice in policing: Police-academic collaboration in the context of human trafficking mediated online
11.45-12.00	Cavanna, Labour Exploitation, Victim Protection and Corporate Accountability: Lessons from the Italian Case	Scarpa, The New EU Directive 2024/1712 on Trafficking in Persons: An Assessment
12.00-12.15	Chapple, Bluewashing: How Corporate Photographs Obscure Modern Slavery Risks in Mandatory Transparency Reporting	Ziobróń, Digital Coercion in Modern Slavery: Deepfakes as a Tool of Control, Intimidation and Exploitation
12.15-12.30	Peirola, Training Trafficking: Knowledge Production in International Police Training	Lally and Parks, EU Migration Pact Border Screening and Human Trafficking Victims
12.30-12.45	Clausse, Human Trafficking at Sea: Flags of Convenience and the Enforcement Gap	
12.45-13.15	Q&A	Q&A
13.15-13.30	Coffee break	

Parallel sessions (13.30-15.30)

Topic: Examining Vulnerable Populations Chair: Lorraine Lally (link for online participants)		Topic: AI & Digital Ecosystems Chair: Tracy Bradford (link for online participants)
13.30-13.45	Schembri, Stolen Childhoods: Banning Child Marriage as Trafficking and Slavery	Pisconti, Human Trafficking in the Digital Ecosystem: Criminal Law Challenges
13.45-14.00	Naheed, Racism and Modern Slavery: Reframing Exploitation through Community-Based Anti-Racist Education in Ireland (paper 12) BST	Turanjanin, Digital Platforms and Virtual Economies: New Frontiers in Human Trafficking
14.00-14.15	Williams, The Absent Buyer: Anti-Trafficking Law, Kafala, and East African Women	McCusker, Digital Chains: Technology-Enabled Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery
14.15-14.30	Muchtar, Policies for Preventing Human Trafficking in Israel	Bastounas, Generative AI and Human Trafficking: Digital Sexual Exploitation
14.30-14.45	Gregoriou and Ras, The fact-fiction cycle: (Re)drafting trafficking 'realities' in Robinson's 'Strange Affair'	Lazarus et al, Media Analysis of Supply-Side Recruitment Infrastructure and the Forced Cybercriminal Paradox
14.45-15.00	Okoye and Chiedozi, Revisiting modern slavery reporting as reflexive regulation - Lessons and Limitations	
15.00-15.30	Q&A	Q&A
15.30-15.45	Coffee break	

Plenary session (15.45-17.30) Chair: Ramachandra Oviode Siou (link for online participants)	
15.45-16.00	Barlow and Heys, Recognising Exploitation: Epistemic Blindness in Modern Slavery Responses
16.00-16.15	Bouché and Van Dyk, Organized Crime & Human Trafficking in the United States
16.15-16.30	Brejon, From International Instruments to Regional Implementation: ASEAN's Anti-Trafficking Framework
16.30-16.45	Reddock, Transatlantic Slavery: A Pre-caution for Modern Slavery
16.45-17.15	Q&A
17.15-17.25	Closing speech
17.25-17.30	Goodbye and thank you

Joining instructions:

- 1) This conference will take place on Teams.
- 2) All links are noted in the program above.

Abstracts and bios of Speakers: To access these please click on link below [!\[\]\(2bdfe261b986065ee0ac76460d6528c9_img.jpg\)](#)

Steering Committee (August 2026)

Professor Paul Almond (Professor of Law, University of Leicester)
Dr Temitayo Olami Atere (Corporate Policy Officer, Gloucestershire County Council and Newcastle University)
Ms Stephanie Baroud (Criminal Intelligence Analyst, Human Trafficking and Migrant Unit, INTERPOL)
Professor Enrico Basile (Bocconi University, Italy)
Dr Monika Baronak -Atkins (Greenwich University)
Professor Anna Blachnio-Parzych (Associate Professor, Kozminski University, Poland)
Dr Muin Boase (Senior Law Lecturer, Derby University)
Ms Tracy Bradford (Senior Lecturer in Policing, Derby University)
Professor Mark Button (Portsmouth University and International Society of Economic Criminology)
Dr. Aw. Maria Carla Canato (Research Assistant, University of Padua)
Mr Caleb Carroll (Specialist, ILED & CRIMINT/FDC Analysis, Inv. & Law Enforcement Development, Global Programs, International Justice Mission)
Dr Alison Cronin (Bournemouth University)
Dr Anna Dolidze (former Member of Parliament, Georgia and Fellow, Cornell University)
Dr Roberta De Paolis (Research Fellow, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Italy)
Dr Alessandra De Tommaso (Middlesex University)
Ms Maria Di Maggio (PhD Candidate, University of Bari)
Dr Giuseppe Di Vetta (Assistant Professor, Scuola Universitaria Superiore Sant'Anna)
Professor Valentina Donini (Scuola Nazionale dell'Amministrazione, Italy)
Dr Tracey Elliot (Leicester University)
Mr Isaac Espinosa-Delgado (Criminal Intelligence Analyst, Human Trafficking and Migrant Unit, INTERPOL)
Dr Dolapo Fakuade (Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Derby University)
Dr Gaia Fiorinelli (Research Fellow, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Italy)
Professor Michele Gallant (Manitoba University, Canada)
Dr Penny Giosa (Reading University)
Mr Adburrahman Goren (PhD Researcher, Cardiff University)
Ms Demelza Hall (UWE)
Professor Tim Hall (Department of Policing, Criminology and Forensics, Faculty of Law, Crime and Justice, University of Winchester)

Dr Nina Hart (King's College London)
Dr Maren Heidemann (Institute of Advanced Legal Studies)
Dr Branislav Hock (Portsmouth University)
Professor Flora Huang (Derby University)
Dr Diana Johnson (UWE)
Professor Gerhard Kemp (UWE)
Mr A B M Ehasan Ullah Khan (Lecturer, Eastern University, Bangladesh)
Ms Monika Krawczyk (Senior Lecturer, University of Law)
Ms Lorraine Lally (Counsel, Bar of Ireland)
Dr. Salomé Lannier (Post-doctoral researcher / MSCA Fellow, University of Luxembourg)
Dr Misbau Lateef (Lecturer, University of Hull)
Ms Alison Lawson (Head of Marketing and Operations, Derby University)
Dr Carlo Lazzari (Guardia di Finanza, Italy)
Ms Av. Monika Lewko (PhD Candidate, Kozminski University and Lawyer - Poland)
Dr Demetra Loizou (Lecturer in International Criminal Law and Humanitarian Law, UCLan Cyprus)
Professor Darcy MacPherson (Manitoba University, Canada)
Professor Giovanni Martini (Università Luigi Vanvitelli, Italy)
Dr Meera Mathew (Associate Professor, Christ University, India)
Ms Michala Meiselles (Senior Lecturer, Derby University and Solicitor - England and Wales)
Dr Simona Metrangolo (Lecturer and Senior Research Fellow, Università del Salento)
Mr José Monteiro (Global Director, ILED, Global Programs, International Justice Mission)
Dr Foivi Mouzakiti (Royal Holloway University)
Professor Dr Carole Murphy (Director of Bakhita Centre, St Mary's University)
Dr Elizabeth Njatha (Associate Lecturer, Derby University)
Mr Allan Ngari (Africa Advocacy Director, Human Rights Watch)
Dr Beatrice Onofri (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano)
Dr Taiwo Oriola (Derby University)
Mr Râmachandra Oviode-Siou (Lecturer and PhD candidate, Université Paris Dauphine-PSL)
Dr Georgios Pavlidis (Associate Professor of International and EU Law, Neapolis University Pafos)
Dr Daria Perrone (Senior Researcher, University E-Campus, Italy)

Dr Narissa Ramsundar (Principal Lecturer in Law, Canterbury Christ Church University)
Dr Francis Rees (Lecturer in Law, Essex Law School)
Ms Alessia Rizzo (PhD Candidate, University of Messina, Italy)
Dr Rossella Sabia (Luiss University, Italy)
Dr Alessandro Sbarro (Researcher, Università del Salento, Italy)
Dr Kee Hean Soh (Associate Professor, Singapore University of Social Sciences)
Dr Radosveta Vassileva (Visiting Research Fellow, Middlesex University)
Professor Arianna Visconti (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
Dr Ranchun Wang (Leiden University, The Netherlands)
Dr Sarah Wilson (University of York)
Dr Horace Yeung (Leicester University)
Professor Dr Benjamin van Rooij (University of Amsterdam)
Dr Francesca Vitarelli (Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Milan)
Ms Agata Ziobron (University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska, Poland)