

# e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

## January 2016

**Welcome to the new issue of GAATW e-Bulletin!** Our e-Bulletin features comment pieces, analytical articles and interviews. It is also a space for the GAATW-IS, Member Organisations and partners to share news about their work. We welcome your feedback and contributions to future issues at [borislav@gaatw.org](mailto:borislav@gaatw.org).



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### At the start of a New Year...

We wish all our members, partners and friends a joyous and meaningful 2016. As in the past, we hope to continue working with all of you during this year too.

A highlight of 2015 for us was our Strategic Planning Meeting held in the last quarter of 2015. The meeting, a sequel to our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Members Congress, brought together members of GAATW International Board and some expert advisors for three days of intensive discussion regarding the future course of the Alliance and the tasks to be undertaken by the Secretariat. We now have a comprehensive work plan for 2016-18 that validates our on-going work and adds exciting new dimensions. So while the Secretariat will continue to work on Accountability, Access to Justice and Power in Migration and Work, we will include new countries and regions in the programmes. We will also explore new themes through our research programme. Our Participatory Learning programme will be more structured and straddle more regions. Global and Regional thematic consultations with members and partners are lined up too. In order to ensure expert guidance for our work, Advisory Groups on Research, Communications and Advocacy have been added to the existing Advisory Group on Media. And most importantly, new colleagues are going to join the Secretariat. We received excellent responses to our vacancy announcements and are currently finalising the selection process. So in summary, 2016 is going to be a busy and exciting year at GAATW-IS. Look out for postings on our website, mailing lists, Facebook and Twitter!

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### Interview: Reflecting back and looking forward

In 2015 four of our European members - Ban Ying (Germany), LEFÖ (Austria), La Strada (European network) and FIZ (Switzerland) celebrated important anniversaries. GAATW-IS

congratulates them for their continued commitment to improving the lives of migrant women and victims of trafficking and wishes them many more years of successful work in the promotion and protection of their human rights.

To mark these anniversaries we talked to Paula Riedemann (Ban Ying), Evelyn Probst (LEFÖ), Suzanne Hoff (La Strada International) and Shelley Berlowitz (FIZ) who reflected back on the situation with women's migration and human trafficking in Europe in the past 30 years and what challenges and opportunities to look forward to. [View the interview...](#)

## News from the GAATW International Secretariat

### Briefing Papers: 'Towards greater accountability - Participatory Monitoring of Anti-Trafficking Initiatives'



To date, very little research has been done to consult trafficked people on assistance services and to seek their comments on the efficacy of the services they received, or needed, but did not receive. Therefore, in 2013, 17 GAATW Member Organisations across Latin America, Europe, and Asia undertook a participatory research project to look at their own assistance work from the perspective of trafficked persons. GAATW members interviewed 121 women, men and girls who lived through trafficking to find out about their experience of assistance interventions and their recovery process after trafficking. The project aimed to make the assistance programmes more responsive to the needs of the clients and to initiate a process of accountability on the part of all anti-trafficking organisations and institutions.

[Read all the latest GAATW-IS news...](#)

## From our Member Organisations...

### The Hidden Harms of Anti-Trafficking

On 15 October, SWAN Vancouver held a forum, entitled 'The Hidden Harms of Anti-Trafficking', which brought together representatives of law enforcement, funders, advocates, social assistance providers and members of the general public. Dr Hayli Millar and Dr Tamara O'Doherty from the University of the Fraser Valley presented some of the main concerns raised by criminal justice system professionals in the report ['The Palermo Protocol and Canada: The Evolution and Human Rights Impacts of Canadian Anti-trafficking Laws'](#).

[Read all updates from members...](#)

If you would like to contribute your news to our members' section of the ebulletin, please email [borislav@gaatw.org](mailto:borislav@gaatw.org)

[www.gaatw.org](http://www.gaatw.org)

## Resources

## [Behind closed doors: Protecting and promoting the human rights of migrant domestic workers in an irregular situation](#)

OHCHR

This new publication of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights sheds light on the often hidden experience of irregular migrant domestic workers, and challenges governments to take appropriate protective measures. It presents an overview of the vulnerability of migrants in an irregular situation and the specific risks faced by migrant women and girls, as well as the human rights challenges faced by migrant domestic workers in an irregular situation. It also discusses the challenges that migrant domestic workers may face if they are repatriated and argues that regularisation of their status is, more often, a better solution.

## [Underserved. Overpoliced. Invisibilised. LGBT sex workers do matter](#)

International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe

The struggle for sex workers' rights intersects with many other social movements. For this reason the International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE) is preparing a series of briefing papers that will give sex workers, activists from other social movements and policy makers the tools to explore the intersection of sex workers' rights with other rights and social struggles such as those connected with LGBT people, women, workers, migrants and health. This first briefing paper explores the diverse experiences and realities of LGBT sex workers and the intersection of LGBT rights and sex workers' rights. It also calls upon the LGBT movement to build an alliance with sex workers and their organisations and actively support sex workers' rights and the decriminalisation of sex work.

## [Blurred Lines: The Contested Nature of Sex Work in a Changing Social Landscape](#)

Graduate Journal of Social Science

This special edition of the Graduate Journal of Social Science explores the contested nature of the sex industry, a global industry operating within socio-political contexts that have witnessed an array of changes in recent years.

The papers in this collection contribute to advancing critical understandings of the ways in which the changing social landscapes have been experienced by those engaged globally in commercial sex work. In so doing, this edition seeks to agitate some of the polarised debates often present within sex industry discourses by exploring some of the oftentimes overlooked nuances - the blurred lines - between the different sex markets, between sex as work and other forms of labour, between agency and constraint, and between care and control.

## [Addressing 'demand' in anti-trafficking efforts](#)

Norbert Cyrus; Dita Vogel

The DemandAT project published two new working papers in December. [The first one](#), authored by Norbert Cyrus, charts the history of the use of the concepts 'trafficking' and 'demand' in the context of debates on trafficking since the 1860s. It shows that terminological confusion was and still is a constant feature of these debates. The paper argues that conceptual confusion hampers mutual understanding, prevents reasonable dispute and undermines the capacity to develop policy approaches which effectively provide protection from trafficking and exploitation. The [second paper](#), by Dita Vogel, examines how economic contributions can help clarify some of the terminology used in the DemandAT project. It sets out economic theories of 'demand', and contrasts these to common understandings of the concept of demand and prices as employed in debates on anti-trafficking, as well as understandings of the role of coercion. It concludes that

more context-dependent data interpretation is needed, rather than more data.

### [Report on the impact of the trafficking law in Mexico](#)

Colectivo contra la TDP

The Mexican Colectivo contra la Trata de Personas published this report (in Spanish) on the impact of the new anti-trafficking law in Mexico. The report, which was the result of an assessment carried out with the RightT Guide, lays down their findings and analyses the gap between what the law pretends to achieve and its actual effects on the lives and rights of both trafficked persons and sex workers. The report especially investigates the impact on table dancers. One of the most obvious effects is the increase of raids on sex businesses and the arbitrary arrest and detention of sex workers and table dancers.

### [Modern Slavery in Nepal: Understanding the problem and existing responses](#)

Walk Free and AATWIN

This new report of the Walk Free Foundation and GAATW member AATWIN (Nepal) attempts to make an estimation of the problem of modern slavery in Nepal, including the geographic hotspots and the different industries where they occur. It then presents government and civil society responses and an analysis of gaps and opportunities and concludes with recommendations for a more effective response to modern slavery in the country.

### [Tricked and Indebted on Land, Abused or Abandoned at Sea](#)

Ian Urbina

In this fifth instalment of the Outlaw Ocean Series, New York Times journalist Ian Urbina looks at the little-known industry of maritime manning agencies which supplies the crews working on most of the world's ships. The article focuses on the abuses and dangerous working conditions that seafarers endure on Taiwanese ships, recruited by one Singapore-based manning agency under false promises, dispatched to sea sometimes for years on and then sent back home, often without pay. The article draws on an interview with GAATW member from Singapore Transient Workers Count Too and highlights the case of a Filipino man, who died on a fishing boat.

### [Slavery Research Library](#)

The Freedom Fund has launched the 'Slavery Research Library' - an online tool that contains all articles from the Slavery Research Bulletin, as well as other selected documents. It is designed to provide easy access to the leading research on slavery-related issues and allow users to search by keyword, region or type of research. The Fund invites scholars and activist to submit suggestions of additional material for the library [by e-mail](#).

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