



Quarterly CTIP Newsletter

Agency Highlights

CTIP Makes a Site Visit to U.S. Africa Command

Contributed by: Combating Trafficking in Persons Office

In August 2024, the Combating Trafficking in Persons Program Management Office (CTIP PMO) visited Stuttgart, Germany to meet with U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) points of contact (POCs) about human trafficking. This was our first formal site visit to this geographic Combatant Command.



USAFRICOM partners with African governments to advance U.S. national interests and promote regional security, stability and prosperity. The U.S. supports partners in Africa using a "3D" approach - that is "Diplomacy, Development, and Defense." USAFRICOM is responsible for assisting with the 3rd D - "Defense," including operations, exercises, and security cooperation on the African continent, its island nations, and surrounding waters. The area of responsibility (AOR) consists of 53 African states, more than 800 ethnic groups, over 1,000 languages, vast natural resources, a land mass of 11.2 million square miles (three-and-a-half times the size of the U.S.), and nearly 19,000 miles of coastland. USAFRICOM divides the AOR into four main regions: West Africa, East Africa, North Africa, and Central and Southern Africa.

Why Combating Trafficking in Persons in the AFRICOM Region is Important



According to the U.S. State Department, all three main forms of trafficking – sex trafficking, forced labor, and child soldiering – are found in Africa.¹ According to a 2023 Index of Organized Crime, all African countries are facing some degree of organized crime involving human trafficking, with Eritrea at the top with a score of 9 out of 10 and Burundi, Libya, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Somalia, Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo at the top of the organized crime in human trafficking index.² In addition, new research is making the link between human trafficking and the financing of terrorism.³ Supply chain analysts claim that the number of children used for child labor has risen to 92 million in Africa – an increase of 20 million children in the last four years. Based on these estimates,

¹ <https://respect.international/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/The-Global-Slavery-Index-2016-Walk-Free-Foundation.pdf>

² https://africa.ocindex.net/rankings/human_trafficking?f=rankings&view=List

³ <https://www.istor.org/stable/pdf/resrep25884.7.pdf>

one out of every five African children have been subjected to child labor. Finally, the U.S. State Department TIP Report notes that of 17 countries on the 2024 Child Soldier Prevention List, nine of them are in Africa.⁴

CTIP Meets with USAFRICOM POCs

During the site visit, the CTIP PMO Team met with a dozen USAFRICOM personnel in a roundtable discussion including CTIP POC Daniel Perkins, the USAFRICOM Inspector General's (IG) office, J1, J3, J6, J7, and J9 and Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) representatives to listen and strengthen a CTIP response. Meeting participants recounted their experience and understanding of human trafficking in the AOR, and particularly its nexus with where DoD could aid in prevention. In several meetings, discussion and debate resulted in excellent recommendations including:



- Add issue papers to Comptroller and create a Manpower tool that goes back to Command.
- Post CTIP posters in the PX, commissary, recreational facilities, and other common areas to get the word out about TIP and where to report it.
- Publish an Africa Command Instruction on human trafficking.
- Create joint programs to combat human trafficking with partner nations in the AOR.
- Add combating trafficking in persons prohibitions to General Order #1.
- Look into adding CTIP to the Foreign Clearance Guide - stress keeping self and family safe from CTIP dangers and talk about CTIP and associated issues.
- Have a Leadership Guide to show leadership how CTIP may affect their command.
- Partner with Women, Peace, and Security in addressing the issue of purchase of sex and developing a partnership on changing the culture in the military.
- Invite CTIP PMO to embed with the IG on an upcoming visit to the AOR.

Plans to visit USAFRICOM helped to create a sea of change on combating human trafficking efforts in USAFRICOM's leadership. One key outcome was the USAFRICOM Chief of Staff, Major General Trollinger, appointing Daniel Perkins as the dedicated CTIP Program Manager for USAFRICOM. With that appointment came a commitment to build a robust CTIP Program in the AOR.

Agency Highlights

CTIP PMO Makes a Site Visit to U.S. European Command *Contributed by: Combating Trafficking in Persons Office*

In August 2024, the Combating Trafficking in Persons Program Management Office (CTIP PMO) visited Stuttgart, Germany to meet with U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) points of contact (POCs) about human trafficking.



⁴ <https://www.state.gov/reports/2024-trafficking-in-persons-report/>

USEUCOM's area of responsibility (AOR) includes all of Europe, large portions of Asia, parts of the Middle East, and the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans. The command is responsible for military relations with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 51 countries with a total population of close to a billion people. It divides the AOR into nine distinct regions: Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Levant, Northern Europe, Southeastern Europe, Southern Europe, Southwestern Asia, Southwestern Europe, and Western Europe. There is no mention of trafficking in persons in recent USEUCOM reports and posture statements.

In 1998, the *New York Times* published a story entitled, "Contraband: Traffickers New Cargo – Naïve Slavic Women." Based on a two-year undercover investigation entitled, "Bought & Sold," conducted by the non-governmental organization Global Survivor Network, it recorded the purchase of dozens of females and revealed the shocking story of the illegal trafficking of women from the former Soviet Union. The documentary featured interviews with traffickers, Russian mafia, trafficked women, and groups working to provide services to trafficked women. Over the years dozens of cases of sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and other trafficking-related incidents have been reported.

The European Union (EU) published a Situation Report on human trafficking in 2016. Thirty-seven percent of the victims of trafficking in the EU are EU citizens, and a significant number of them are trafficked within their own country. However, according to the European Commission, non-EU victims have increased in recent years, and they now outnumber victims with EU citizenship.⁵ The majority of victims in the EU are women and girls who are mainly trafficked for sexual exploitation. The ratio of male victims has more than doubled in the last few years. Around 15% of victims of trafficking in the EU are children. Most traffickers in the EU are EU citizens and often of the same nationality as their victims. More than three quarters of perpetrators are men. New information from Interpol and EUROPOL shows that trafficking in human beings is often linked with other forms of organized crime such as migrant smuggling, drug trafficking, extortion, money laundering, document fraud, payment card fraud, property crimes, cybercrime, and even terrorism.

During the site visit, the CTIP PMO Team met with a dozen USEUCOM personnel in a roundtable discussion including CTIP POC Gloria Duck, the USEUCOM Inspector General's (IG) office, J1, J3, J6, J7, and J9 Directorates and WPS representatives, to listen and find ways to help them establish a CTIP response for USEUCOM. Meeting participants recounted their experience and understanding of TIP.

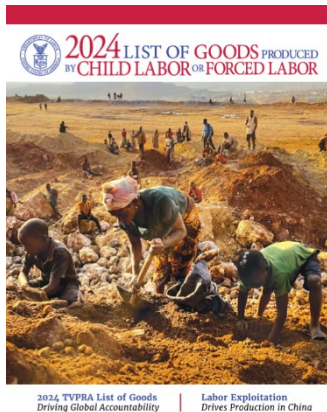
Recommendations from the group included ways to increase TIP awareness within the Services such as adding TIP to the USEUCOM's announcements page and to SharePoint, requesting the Commandant's Office send out information about TIP to ensure broad dissemination, adding TIP messaging to the Public Affairs website, and adding a CTIP booth to Garrison events. Participants also suggested increasing leadership involvement in CTIP by holding special briefings on key issues such as the prohibition on the purchase of sex in the military.



There was a suggestion about making CTIP training mandatory within the first 90 days of official travel to a foreign country and of adding training requirements to the Foreign Clearance Guide. A final suggestion was to have the USEUCOM IG do an overarching evaluation of the way the CTIP DoDI is being implemented in USEUCOM.

The site visit to USEUCOM was a resounding success, creating many opportunities to work together to prevent

⁵ European Commission: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/organised-crime-and-human-trafficking/together-against-trafficking-human-beings_en



Interagency Activities

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has published the eleventh edition of the [List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor](#) in accordance with the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA). The list includes goods from specific countries of origin that DOL has reason to believe are produced with child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards. Seventy-two new items were added including cobalt ore from the Democratic Republic of Congo which may be used in medical implants and prosthetics, and aluminum from China, which may be used in healthcare equipment.

DoD CTIP Program Office Updates

On August 20, 2024, the CTIP Office tasked the FY24 CTIP Self-Assessment to DoD Components via CATMS and email. Pursuant to DoD Instruction 2200.01, June 21, 2019, “Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP),” DoD Components must conduct and provide the results of an annual self-assessment to the CTIP PMO each year. The self-assessment assesses the strengths, weaknesses, and effectiveness of the program’s implementation by analyzing reporting on suspected TIP incidents, investigations, prosecutions, and training programs. The self-assessment consolidates annual reporting requirements to the U.S. Department of State and inputs to the U.S. Attorney General’s Report to Congress on U.S. Government Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons. It is due to the CTIP Office on December 2, 2024.



The CTIP Office participated in the quarterly Senior Policy Operating Group (SPOG) meeting on September 25, 2024. The Deputy Director of Defense Support Services Center and the CTIP Program Director represented the DoD. The CTIP Office submitted updates on the DoD’s recent CTIP activities including training updates (CTIP Refresher Course and DoD Legal Professionals), the site visits to U.S. Africa Command and U.S. European Command in Germany, and the CTIP Healthcare and Human Trafficking training public service announcement. The SPOG consists of senior officials designated as representatives of the President’s Interagency Task Force.

The CTIP Office chaired the CTIP Task Force meeting on October 9, 2024. The CTIP PMO invited two guest speakers for the meeting: DHS Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Forced Labor Division, discussed an overview of the Withhold Release Orders (WRO) program, and DHS Center for Countering Human Trafficking (CCHT) discussed their mission, information about the DHS Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking, the importation of goods produced with forced labor, and child sexual exploitation. 62 participants representing the Services, Combatant Commands, and DoD Agencies attended the meeting.

The CTIP Office started the process to update the DoD Instruction 2200.01,

June 21, 2019, “Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP).”

The CTIP Office is working with DSSC Policy on the update. DSSC Policy will run coordination from beginning to end.

The CTIP Office developed two public service announcements describing the CTIP Healthcare Personnel Training and the CTIP Chaplain Training. To view, go to: <https://ctip.defense.gov/CTIP-Resources/>

For more information,
visit :
ctip.defense.gov

NEW Training: *The CTIP Office released the [CTIP Judge Advocate and Legal Counsel specialized training](#) for Judge Advocates in the U.S. Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy, including those responsible for administrative law, government contracting, civilian and military personnel law, the law of war and international relations, as well as those serving as prosecutors for the military when conducting courts-martial. Judge Advocates, General Counsels, and other legal professionals in the DoD play a key role in advising commanders and leadership on the threats of human trafficking and the ways to combat it.*

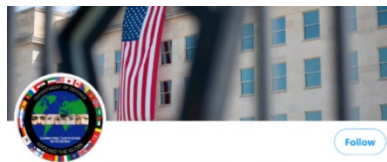
Check out the CTIP Website! The [website](#) includes tabs for the CTIP Resources, the Survivor Voices of Human Trafficking, and Report TIP.



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Upcoming Events

- The CTIP Self-Assessment is due to the CTIP PMO by December 2, 2024
- The next CTIP Quarterly Task Force meeting will be on January 8, 2025