



Ad-Hoc Query on safe centres for unaccompanied minors - victims of trafficking in human beings

Requested by PL EMN NCP on 11 December 2013

Compilation produced on 14th January 2014

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Sweden, United Kingdom plus Norway (17 in Total)

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1. Background Information

Following the Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, which obliges the Member States to take necessary measures to ensure assistance and support of child victims of trafficking and particularly - due account of the personal and special circumstances - of the unaccompanied victims, Poland is interested in collecting information from other Member States on (1) where the unaccompanied minor (UM) is referred to and accommodated when he/she is identified as a child victim of trafficking; (2) what kind of centres are provided in such cases: open - as it is for other unaccompanied minors, or guarded with a special security system established.

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In the course of preparing a model of support for UMs - victims of trafficking, Poland has encountered some difficulties which needs to be challenged. The major one relates with providing the UMs safe accommodation. Children who are victims of trafficking are reluctant to trust the authorities and in consequence are willing to run away from safe accommodation. Such situations may jeopardise the child interest and lead to child revictimisation.

Thus, Poland recognises the need to prepare a special procedure as well as to establish a set of standards which should be met by centres that accommodate UMs - victims of trafficking.

In this context, the following questions aims at presenting good practices and experience gathered by the Member States in providing safe shelters for UMs - victims of trafficking as well as in establishing special mechanisms/instruments/procedures preventing UMs from revictimisation.

Questions:



1. Where are unaccompanied minors (UMs) referred to and accommodated in case they are identified as minor victims of trafficking in human beings? Are there in your Member State special centres/shelters for UMs - victims of trafficking of human beings?

2. Is the accommodation open or close (guarded)?

3. Has your Member State implemented a special mechanisms/instruments/procedures preventing UMs (including UMs-victims of trafficking in human beings) from running away the shelters? If yes, please describe them briefly.

4. Are above mentioned mechanisms/ instruments/procedures effective or sufficient in minimizing the risk of revictimisation (in case of UMs - victims of trafficking in human beings)?

2. Responses

		Wider Dissemination?	
	Austria	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	Belgium	Yes	<p>Background information:</p> <p>In the early 2000s, Belgian authorities noted and felt worried about the significant number of unaccompanied foreign minors disappearing from reception centres. Taking into account the risk of seeing these young persons taken back by networks of trafficking in human beings, specific accommodation centres were made available to them in order to protect and secure them and provide them with assurance that</p>



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			<p>they would no longer be at risk of exploiting networks. In 2002, a first hidden centre was created: Esperanto (French Community) was tasked to welcome, secure and stabilize unaccompanied foreign minors who are presumed victims of trafficking in human beings as well as to follow up actions undertaken regarding their legal and judicial status in order to help them integrate socially and to accompany them in their life project. In addition to this, Minor N'Dako & Juna (Flemish Community) offers accommodation and assistance to unaccompanied foreign minors and also welcomes victims of trafficking in human beings.</p> <p>1. Belgium has a general reception system for unaccompanied foreign minors where all unaccompanied foreign minors can be sheltered regardless of the procedure. There are 2 centres that are specialised in assistance to unaccompanied minors who are victims of THB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Esperanto - in the Walloon region✓ Minor-Ndako & Juna - in the Flemish region <p>Both organisations are part of the (regional) youth care. This implies, they have – compared to the federal centres - a small scale and big staff and their approach is much more personalised.</p> <p>2. Both centres are open. Please see answer to question 3 for specific security measures.</p> <p>3. Esperanto has a high focus on safety (hidden centre, internal rules, etc.). The centre implements specific safety/protection measures, including: the front door is always locked, young residents can't have a portable, they can't go out alone during the first month at least (while information is being gathered on the degree and criteria of dangerousness). In addition to this, the staff is large enough to afford 3 educators during the day to ensure adequate supervision (especially of young residents who are not willing to be there and are more likely to run away).</p> <p>Minor-Ndako & Juna considers safety as important as well but doesn't foresee safety measures up to that level: unaccompanied foreign minors have to go outside to attend school, medical check up, etc.</p> <p>Both centres have elaborated an approach to prevent running away in an open structure.</p> <p>This approach is based on the following basic elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Inform the victim on all aspects of his/her situation✓ Improve confidence of the minor by authentic involvement in his or her situation✓ Avoid inactivity/boredom: offer a lot of activities, keep the victim busy
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			<p align="center">✓ Control communication with outside world (phone, internet)</p> <p>4. In the view of Esperanto, measures taken haven't been especially effective.</p> <p>In the view of Minor N'Dako, measures are sufficient when the victim does not want to go back to the traffickers or is not sure about what to do. When the (supposed) victim is convinced that he or she has to go back to the traffickers and wants to get back at any price, measures aren't sufficient. Minor-Ndako & Juna experimented the case of a boy who wanted to join his mother in the UK. Traffickers promised him it was a matter of days, while legal procedures for family reunification take several months. The boy ran away (and arrived in the UK soon after). Since then, if confronted with high risk situations, Minor-Ndako & Juna tends to refer to Esperanto.</p> <p><i>Sources: Esperanto + Minor-Ndako & Juna vzw</i></p>
	Estonia	Yes	<p>1. According to an Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens § 6² an applicant for or person enjoying international protection who is an unaccompanied minor shall be placed in the accommodation centre for asylum seekers or referred to substitute home service or foster care. Upon the assignment of a place of stay of the applicant for or person enjoying international protection who is an unaccompanied minor and the provision of services for him or her the priority shall be given to the rights and interests of the minor. Unaccompanied minors who are siblings shall not be separated from one another where possible.</p> <p>According to the Victim Support Act § 3 p1 and the Social Welfare Act § 3 p 2, the provision of victim support services to an unaccompanied minor and a victim of human trafficking, etc. is guaranteed by the Social Insurance Board, which is an agency of the Ministry of Social Affairs. In providing social welfare services, the Social Insurance Board cooperates with state and municipal authorities and legal persons, involves and instructs victim support volunteers and organises the instruction of volunteers. According to the Victim Support Act, victim support services are a public service that aims at the preservation or improvement of the subsistence abilities of persons (persons under 18 years of age) who have been subjected to careless or malevolent treatment, physical, mental or sexual violence.</p> <p>There was 1 unaccompanied minor in Estonia, who was accommodated separately - in Haiba children's home by way of exception.</p> <p>2. They are guarded by substitute home service officials.</p> <p>3. not applicable.</p> <p>4. not applicable.</p>
	Finland	Yes	<p>1. In Finland there are no special centres/shelters for UAM victims of human trafficking. There are group homes and supported living units for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers. In cases involving child welfare aspects, the state acquires accommodation at child</p>


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			<p>welfare facilities from municipalities. The Joutseno reception centre is responsible for the accommodation of persons admitted to the National Assistance System for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings – special accommodation can be acquired from outside the centre, if necessary, taking e.g. safety aspects into account.</p> <p>2. Group homes and supported living units for unaccompanied minors are all open. There are no guards but supervision is provided 24/7 by the staff members. All entrances are locked and under camera surveillance.</p> <p>3. No. The National Child welfare Act enables restrictions to the child’s rights (contacts, confiscation of subjects etc.) but the restrictions are applicable only when the child is placed in institutional care. Restrictions on free movement may not continue for longer than 30 days without interruption.</p> <p>4. Finland has scarcely any experience on minors as victims of human trafficking. Child Welfare Services is responsible for providing assistance to UAM victims of human trafficking but the Child welfare Act does not determine the competences or responsibilities of different actors within the national assistance system for victims of human trafficking. Successful cooperation between the Police, Child Welfare Services and the National Assistance System for Victims of Human Trafficking is the key factor in protecting the UM victims of human trafficking.</p>
	France	Yes	<p>1. There is no special centre for UMs – victims of trafficking in human beings in France.</p> <p>2. not applicable.</p> <p>3. not applicable.</p> <p>4. not applicable.</p>
	Hungary	Yes	<p>1. Unaccompanied minors shall be placed in Special Centres on the basis of seeking asylum regardless of being victims of human trafficking. In case they are seeking for asylum they will be placed in a Special Centre in Fót (István Károlyi Center for Children), otherwise they will be placed in a Special Centre in Hódmezővásárhely or Ópusztaszer. It is a common phenomenon that unaccompanied minor asylum seekers abscond or leave without authorization their compulsory residence. Many of these minors are in relation with persons who are presumed to be traffickers. If the child is victim of human trafficking Act XXXI of 1997 on child protection and guardianship administration should be applied.</p> <p>2. The accommodation is open for children and the movement of the children is free, i.e. they are not guarded.</p> <p>3. No, there are not any special mechanisms/instruments/procedures. As unaccompanied minor asylum seekers and migrants are in vulnerable situation they are potential victims of traffickers. The minor asylum seekers get into contact with persons who are presumed to</p>


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			<p>be traffickers. They leave their compulsory residence without authorization and usually within a few days of their arrival therefore the nature of the relationship between the minors and the suspected traffickers cannot be identified.</p> <p>4. not applicable.</p>
	<p>Italy</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. The Italian protection system for victims of human trafficking has been operating since 2000. It is coordinated and co-financed by the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. Measures are undertaken by the Department of Equal opportunities under a structure composed of three main categories (surfacing, identification and first assistance, social inclusion) which are carried out through various means of intervention: a national anti-trafficking toll free number (800.290.290); a first assistance program, pursuant to art. 13 of the Law no. 228/2003 (“measures against trafficking in human beings”) with the “creation of a special assistance program for victims of crimes provided for by articles 600 and 601 of the Italian Penal Code”; a social assistance and integration program, provided for by art. 18 of the Legislative Decree no. 286/98 T.U.I. (“Consolidated Act on Immigration”). First assistance programs (art. 13 of the law 228/2003) provide assistance to those persons identified as victims (or alleged victims) of trafficking in human beings, for a minimum period of three months (which can be extended for another period of 3 months). Persons assisted by public institutions or private social associations have the right to receive proper accommodation, food, health and legal assistance. In many cases, after the individual case is settled, the person continues to be assisted through projects provided for by art. 18. These projects, which last 12 months, allow victims of human trafficking to have access to various services and activities based on a personalized assistance plan according to their specific needs: residential care, psychological counselling, legal assistance, linguistic and cultural mediation, accompaniment to social and health services, vocational training, job placement and internships in companies, labour insertion. According to both assistance programs, local authorities and associations can propose projects which may be co-funded through annual tenders. In order to participate in these tenders, public institutions and private associations must be registered in the second section of the “Register of Associations and Institutions offering services to immigrants”. <u>Both programs also include specific measures for unaccompanied minors victims of human trafficking who must be accommodated in special shelters.</u></p> <p>2. Within a very short time, both programs allow for the unaccompanied minor to be hosted in a secret shelter for an initial period of up to 3 months, where he/she will have access to health care services and psychological support, if necessary. In a second moment, the minor victim of human trafficking will be transferred (to another region of Italy, if necessary) to a long-term reception facility where he/she will have access to schooling or vocational training and other services to ensure proper job placement (i.e., job grants). In the meantime, the minor will continue to have access to psychological counselling and health care services. During this second phase, the minor has freedom of movement outside the shelter facility. However, the authorities may order restrictive security measures based on the personal situation of the minor.</p> <p>3. Current Italian laws do not provide for specific measures to adopt in order to prevent minor victims of human trafficking from trying to abandon reception centres. For this reason, in those Italian regions which are more affected by this phenomenon, specific protocols on safety measures have been signed between the judicial authorities, police forces, local institutions and the associations who are in charge of the minors. These protocols usually contain the following procedures:</p>



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The reception centre for victims (or alleged victims) of human trafficking or exploitation must be located in a secret location, possibly far from a town centre, so that the minors (or those who have just turned 18) may receive more protection against their exploiters/traffickers and be induced – at least for the first days – to remain within the centre itself; for this reason, transferring the minor to another city may be recommended. ✓ Police authorities must provide a protected entrance so as to discourage any approach by traffickers; ✓ First assistance centres should immediately confiscate all cell phones for a given amount of time (usually a maximum of 48 hours) because they could be used by the minors’ traffickers for further exploitation and conditioning. ✓ Law enforcement agencies adopt common emergency procedures for the immediate transfer of the victims, if necessary for their safety. <p>4. The current system of protection for unaccompanied foreign minors and, specifically, victims of human trafficking, does not seem completely adequate to provide full protection. For this reason, the Italian Parliament is examining new proposals to modify the current law. Among them, the last one, presented in December 2013 by several Members of the Italian Parliament, contains the specific proposals of Save the Children. Regarding underage victims of human trafficking, art. 19 of this proposed law states that “specific protection should be provided to unaccompanied foreign minors, by creating a specific assistance program that ensures adequate reception conditions as well as psychological, health and legal assistance, including long-term solutions, even after becoming adults.” Once this law is approved, a specific regulation will establish the actual means of protection.</p>
	Latvia	Yes	<p>There is no special regulation for providing specific support mechanism for UAM victims of trafficking in human beings. All of the victims are entitled to receive the State funded social rehabilitation services and other support services without any positive or negative discrimination. However, it should be noted that the Law on Social Services and Social Assistance stipulates that all of the social services are based on the individual approach principle and in accordance to the individual social rehabilitation plan. Therefore, if an UAM is identified as a victim of trafficking in human being, an individual social rehabilitation programme consists of such activities and measurements that are most suitable for him/her.</p> <p>Also, it is significant that since trafficking in human beings is recognised there haven’t been any case with a minor victim (i.e., less than 18 years old) involved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are no special shelters for UAM victims of trafficking in human beings most likely services would be provided at the place of residence (if the UAM is living with the guardian) or in a general social care and social rehabilitation institution or in asylum seekers reception centre (hereinafter – Institutions). 2. Institutions are mostly open (meaning – not closed). However, there are strict rules on visiting the premises, e.g. visiting hours, persons

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			<p>who are not allowed to visit the institution etc.</p> <p>3. Every institution has its regulation on rights and obligations of a person who receives social services, including rights to leave the institution and an obligation to return in a definite time (for instance, going to school in the morning and return after the lessons end). As institutions are not closed, it is not possible to prevent all of the cases when a person is willing to leave an institution. Once a case revolves social work specialists and other specialists, an Orphans' court and a police, if necessary, are involved. A person is motivated to return to the institution to continue the social rehabilitation programme till the course ends. However, in most of the cases the decision to stop providing services after a definite period of an unwarranted absence of a person is reached as participation in the social rehabilitation services or other support measurements is strictly voluntary.</p> <p>4. Since the establishment of social services and other support mechanisms for victims of trafficking in human beings, no minor victim has been identified; therefore it's not possible to make any distinct assessment of the existing system. Nevertheless, as the system mentioned above refers also to other State funded social rehabilitation services, it is being constantly revised. So far it is noted that it is important to stipulate that social rehabilitation services are provided also if a minor is refusing, <u>if</u> an Orphans' court decides that receiving social rehabilitation services (e.g., for children who are addicted from psychotropic substances) are essential and is in the best interests of a minor.</p>
	Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. According to the national legislation, UMs who lodge an asylum application are accommodated in the Refugee Reception Centre, a social services providing institution under the Ministry of social security and labour (if the appointed guardian agrees). If an UM would be identified as a victim of trafficking, (s)he would be accommodated in the same institution.</p> <p>2. The accommodation is open.</p> <p>3. Lithuania has no special mechanism to prevent UMs from running away.</p> <p>4. not applicable.</p>
	Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. Once the UM minor (assimilated and TCN) is identified by a special section of the police as a presumed victim of human trafficking based on indicators, the juvenile judge is directly informed and s/he will appoint a guardian (tutor), who will be responsible for him/her and will act in its best interests as long as necessary in accordance with article 3 of the Law of 8 May 2009 (See Mémorial A no 129 of 9 June 2009). An ad-hoc administrator will be appointed in accordance with article 92 (2) of the Law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration to represent UM minors from third countries during the entire procedure, even penal procedure. The Grand-ducal police will inform the minor of his/her rights and will take contact with a social service at the earliest opportunity and accompany the minors to the specialised shelters. The Police has a 24h open phone line to arrange emergency shelter for victims of human trafficking.</p> <p>A person is considered as a child and minor until the age of 17 years old. A minor victim of human trafficking is protected by the law of</p>


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			<p>10 August 1992 on youth protection (see http://www.legilux.public.lu/leg/a/archives/1992/0070/a070.pdf#page=2)</p> <p>In accordance with article 2 of the Law of 8 May 2009 on the Assistance, Protection and Security of Victims in Human Beings the victim of human trafficking (adults, young adults (18-27 years) and minors) are entitled to assistance, protection and security measures provided by associations funded from the government in order to allow them to recover physically and psychologically.</p> <p>The directive 2011/36 has not yet be implemented. A bill (no 6562) assuring the transposition of the directive has been tabled in parliament and is under work.</p> <p>A draft regulation entitled « projet de règlement grand- ducal portant 1.modification du règlement grand-ducal du 19 mars 1999 concernant l'agrément gouvernemental à accorder aux gestionnaires de services pour filles, femmes et femmes avec enfants ; 2 exécution de l'article 2, paragraphes (1) point a) et (2) et (4) et de l'article 10 de la loi du 8 mai 2009 sur l'assistance, la protection et la sécurité des victimes de la traite des êtres humains et modifiant le Nouveau Code de procédure civile » is pending before the State Council. It will allow that NGOs provide services accordingly to minors as they are specialized in the care of children and young adults (27 years) and adults (women or men). They will work with a legal framework by getting a specific accreditation in the field of assistance to victims of THB by the State according to their target population and fully funded by the State Budget.</p> <p>Meanwhile, these assistance, protection and security measures are provided in cooperation with the Police on an informal base by NGOs who have an agreement with the State (Femmes en détresse , Fondation Maison de la Porte Ouverte, Fondation Profamilia), and whose services are authorised by the Ministry for Equal Opportunities. These services are in the field of consultation and information to women, men and girls in distress, including victims (adults and children), of domestic violence, as well as accommodation for women in distress, including women victims of domestic violence.</p> <p>Hosting and stationary assistance for minors and male victims of THB are also provided on an informal base in accordance with the Ministry for Equal Opportunities by NGO's specialised in services for children and young adults or specialised in the care of women and men in social distress. These NGOs have to be authorised by the Ministry of Family and Integration (Caritas, Solidarité jeunes and others children shelters depending on availability). The assistance measures for adult and minor victims are coordinated by the Ministry for Equal Opportunities. Outpatient support to all victims of trafficking (minors and adults) is provided by two specialists trained in the field of assistance to victims of trafficking, working for two of the above mentioned NGOs (Femmes en détresse asbl and Fondation Maison de la Porte Ouverte). To recover physically, psychologically and socially, victims are entitled to get, according to their needs, the following assistance measures: hosting, social and socio-educational assistance, therapeutic assistance, psychological assistance, medical aid, legal aid, material and financial aid, education for children and adults, training and language assistance.</p> <p>2. The shelter for unaccompanied minors can be an open or a close facility.</p> <p>3. There is no express procedure to avoid that an UM victim of human trafficking runs away. There are no especial protocols put into</p>
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			<p>place. However, the shelters which deal with human trafficking victims coordinate their activities with the police and the protocol for a missing child can immediately be put into effect. The juvenile judge can decide to place the UM minor victim of human trafficking under guardianship in a closed child structure for his/her safety and protection because it is a minor.</p> <p>4. The above mentioned mechanism does happen to be effective.</p>
	<p>Netherlands</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Immediately upon the entry of an UM into the Netherlands or upon finding an UM without legal residence by the authorities, an UM is brought into contact with Stichting Nidos, which is responsible for the guardianship of UMs. Nidos submits an application for guardianship to the court to this end. When the guardianship is granted, the responsibility for the child rests with Nidos. Nidos is authorised to represent the UM's interests during the asylum procedure and may be assisted by a lawyer in this procedure. UMs between 13 and 18 years of age who have been the victim or threatens to become the victim of trafficking in human beings or smuggling of migrants may be placed in a protected reception location. In the Netherlands, the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA) is responsible for the reception, assistance and outflow from the reception facilities in the Netherlands of asylum seekers. Unaccompanied minors that may be victims of trafficking in human beings upon entering the Netherlands or later during their time in the Netherlands referred to and accommodated in protected reception centres. In total the COA has 60 places in protected accommodation available.</p> <p>2. The accommodation is open. However, the UM's in the protected reception centres are watched and, especially in the beginning, they are accompanied if they go outside. There is a method to strengthen the UM's, make them assertive and to instruct them not to give in to the traffickers. After a while the UM can go outside by himself for a short time and in the end, the UM can go to a general reception for UM's.</p> <p>3. In 2013, the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings started an investigation into unaccompanied minor foreign nationals that might be victims of human trafficking and who have been placed in protected accommodation for this reason. It is a quantitative investigation over the period 2008-2012. It is expected that the investigation by the National Rapporteur will be published in the first half of 2014. The aim of the 'Protected Accommodation' project subsidized by the European Refugee Fund (ERF) is to reinforce the protection of unaccompanied minor foreign nationals under the supervision of the COA in cooperation with the various cooperating partners such as the Nidos Foundation, zorggroep Jade, the Expertise Centre on Human Trafficking and Human Smuggling and the police. An important result of this project is for instance the new supervision method for unaccompanied minor foreign nationals who may be the victim of human trafficking. In addition, COA staff has been trained to recognize victims of human trafficking, the protection accommodation has been redone and the zorggroep Jade staff have been trained in supporting victims of human trafficking. Finally, there is also a pilot project in one of the asylum seekers' centres to improve the placing from the protected accommodation to the regular accommodation.</p> <p>4. The instrument used in the protected reception centres is effective in the way that the UM's come to rest, become stronger and learn not to give in to traffickers. Also, from the protected reception centres almost no UM disappears. Ca. 60% of the UM's in the protected</p>


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			<p>reception centres go to the police for a declaration, which is also one of the goals of the program.</p> <p>However we do not monitor what happens with the UM (or sometimes ex-UM) after they leave the protected reception centres. They leave the centre if they are considered strong and assertive enough to stay in a regular reception centre or if they reach the age of 18.</p>
	Poland	Yes	<p>1. Once the UM is identified as a minor victim of trafficking, he/she is referred to the National Consulting and Intervention Centre for victims of trafficking in human beings for first assistance and support. Unfortunately, as the Centre runs a shelter only for adult victims, the UMs - victims of trafficking are further directed to the welfare system which is obliged to find a place in one of the interventional children's homes. In PL there is no a special shelter for UMs - victims of trafficking. However, the staff of some of the children's homes are trained and experienced in accommodating and assisting UMs - victims of trafficking. Thus, such places are given precedence over others operating in intervention.</p> <p>2. The accommodation (children's home) operates in intervention and is basically open (not guarded). It is open for the children residing it to go out (ex. to school, to playground) but it is close for outside visitors who are not acquainted with the child and with the home's staff and who do not have a court permission to see the child.</p> <p>3. There is no a procedural solution established or widely implemented which would prevent UMs from running away. However, those places, which accommodate UMs - victims of trafficking are advised to implement a security mechanism in case of dangerous situations. This mechanism bases on close cooperation with the local police headquarter (an alert system) and with the National Consulting and Intervention Centre. In addition the staff is constantly being trained by the experts of the National Centre on how to take professional care of UMs - victims of trafficking especially on psychological and material aspects.</p> <p>4. The above mentioned mechanism does happen to be effective especially in case of younger UMs - victims of trafficking but it is seldom applied in case of teenager victims. Teenagers do disappear from the centres and return to traffickers.</p>
	Portugal	Yes	<p>In Portugal the unaccompanied minors are housed in a reception center for refugee children or other entities such as the Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV), the Commission for the Protection of Children and Youth and the Portuguese Counsel for Refugees (CPR) in order to find the best solution; however there wasn't an ample evidence of this phenomenon in Portugal.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1. The care for unaccompanied minors (UAMs) is provided in the foster home for UAMs, where the previous upbringing of the child and his/her cultural and religious background is being respected. Within the National Programme on the Fight Against Trafficking in Human Beings the foster home in the town of Topoľčany was assigned also for the UAMs victims of the trafficking in human beings. At the same time in line with the agreement with the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic one place for the UAM victim of the trafficking in human beings is assigned in the Children's Crisis Center "Náruč" in the town of Žilina. As in the last 5 years was annually only one child victim of the THB identified and they were not UAMs the Slovak Republic does not have a specialised facility for this group of persons.</p>



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			<p>2. The care for UAMs is provided in the foster home for UAMs, which is specialised for this type of care. It is an open facility, which should not be guarded, however the minors are under surveillance. The child can leave the foster home only after the consent of the foster home. This is being recorded (his/her departure and arrival to the foster home, personal data of the person with whom the child left). The child has the right to meet with grandparents, siblings or other close persons. If a natural person wants the child to leave repeatedly for a short period of time the foster home this natural person has to take specialised counselling lessons. The foster home can not be entered by unknown persons, by which the security of the child (from escape and from meeting with persons which can have a negative impact on them) is secured.</p> <p>3. See also response to question 2. When the child leaves the foster home without the consent, this has to be reported to the police department, to parents, court or to the body of social protection of children and social curatorship (under Offices of Labour, Social Affairs and Family). This body with other relevant organisations then takes care of the issue. As the number of escapes of the UAMs from the foster homes is high, the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family was assigned within the new Integration Policy (under preparation) to “identify reasons for escapes/disappearances of UAMs and take relevant actions”.</p> <p>4. So far the Slovak Republic has no information that the UAMs victims of THB have been re -trafficked. However it also has to be noted that the number of escapes of UAMs from foster homes is still high and the Slovak Republic would also appreciate any information or good practices how this issue is dealt in other MS.</p>
	<p>Sweden</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. When a child is presumed to be a victim of trafficking, the Swedish Migration Board is legally required to inform the competent local social services (Socialtjänsten) about the child. The social services of the local municipality in question will take the measures needed in each case, in cooperation with the police and with health care authorities. The social services are responsible for children residing in their municipality, regardless of them having applied for asylum or not. Hence, where they are accommodated may differ from one municipality to another. The accommodation differs according to the needs of the specific child. They are usually placed in a collective accommodation in a municipal home for unaccompanied minors or in a private home in the care of care-giver certified by the authorities.</p> <p>2. It is usually open but can be closed as well if that is the only appropriate measure in the interest of the child.</p> <p>3. The risk of children disappearing can be reduced through collaboration with other agencies and organizations, good treatment and care in appropriate, safe and sheltered housing. If a child is taken into custody of the social services by virtue of law, when the child is in danger due to the behaviour of its care-givers or poses a danger to itself, then it is possible to use closed accommodation. It can be considered as posing a danger to oneself if the child is likely to escape in order to contact the perpetrators of THB.</p> <p>4. According by a study made by the County Administrative Board in Stockholm in 2012, there is a problem with children running away from accommodation. The reasons quoted in the study are that children run away before the authorities have been able to take them in custody, that children staying in open accommodation run away for different reasons, e g to return to the perpetrators. About half of the children in question have been taken into custody by virtue of the law permitting the authorities to keep them in closed accommodation,</p>

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			but that law is not applicable in all cases.
	United Kingdom	Yes	<p>Note the following response is for England only. The other devolved administrations of the UK (ie, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland) have their own arrangements for caring for trafficked children, though these arrangements are similar to those in England.</p> <p>1 –Children identified as victims of trafficking are taken into local authority care, however, there is no national provision of care for unaccompanied minors. There are 151 different local authorities in England providing children’s social care, and each makes their own care arrangements. Provision by local authorities of specialist accommodation for trafficked children is very limited. Where they are close to major ports (eg, Heathrow airport) some of these authorities have well developed systems to care for trafficked children. But the standard of care provided to trafficked children varies across the many local authorities, some of whom deal with very small numbers of trafficked children. The Department for Education will shortly be consulting on new regulations and guidance on caring for unaccompanied asylum seeking children and child victims of human trafficking. National legislation and statutory guidance sets legal requirements for standards of care, but does not currently directly address the needs of trafficked children.</p> <p>2 – Accommodation should always be open (unless a child has been convicted of an offence and sentenced accordingly). However, some authorities may seek to protect trafficked children from the risk of going missing by using techniques short of closed accommodation, eg: making sure trafficked children can’t leave the premises without staff being aware or escorting the child; restricting access to phone and internet.</p> <p>3 - No. We are currently considering how we can better protect child victims of trafficking, but it’s not likely that those would include national measures, other than regulation of local authority arrangements.</p> <p>4 – not applicable.</p>
	Norway	Yes	<p>1. Child Welfare Services, the police, the immigration authorities and other welfare services are responsible for ensuring that minors who are victims of human trafficking receive appropriate care. The Directorate of Immigration (UDI) is responsible for providing accommodation for asylum-seekers in Norway, also for unaccompanied minors aged 15–18 years (asylum reception centres). Child Welfare Services are responsible for care centres for unaccompanied minors under 15 years. All the asylum reception centres are monitored and operated based on guidelines and requirements set forth by UDI. These requirements include specific tasks for the reception centres in order to prevent trafficking, and to identify and follow up potential victims. The reception centres must notify Child Welfare Services when the potential victim is a minor. Child Welfare Services have a particular responsibility for children who may be trafficking victims in Norway, and must ensure that children and youth who live under conditions that may be detrimental to their health and development receive the necessary help and care without unnecessary delay. The service must also seek to ensure that the children and young people live in a secure environment. Thus Child Welfare Services are a key element in the protection of children from human trafficking and other forms of serious abuse. The Child Welfare Act permits children to be placed temporarily in an institution without</p>

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			<p>their consent in cases where the child is at risk of being exploited in human trafficking.</p> <p>2. A child can be placed temporarily by Child Welfare Services in a closed institution, without their consent, when the child is at risk of being exploited in human trafficking (Child Welfare Act § 4-29, entered into effect August 2012). The child can also be placed in an open institution by Child Welfare Services. The care centres for unaccompanied minors are open institutions. The same for the reception centres. The residents are free to enter and leave the reception centres, and UDI do not have the authority to restrict the freedom of movement of asylum seekers. There are however some restrictions for minors. All absence must be approved and they cannot leave the reception centres overnight without permission. The reception centres must have access to a known contact person.</p> <p>3. If a UM living in an asylum reception centre does not come back as planned after leave, or they disappear, the reception centres are obligated through agreements with UDI to report the child immediately when it is clear that the child has disappeared. The child should be reported missing to the local police and Child Welfare Services. The reception centre should also report to the legal guardian, the lawyer, and UDI's regional office.</p> <p>4. The Child Welfare Act § 4-29 entered into effect August 2012 and will be evaluated.</p> <p>The Norwegian Plan of Action against Human Trafficking (2011–2014) stipulates the importance of continuing efforts to prevent and investigate the disappearance of minors from care centres and asylum reception centres. Steps will be taken to ensure effective follow-up and quality assurance of procedures, including procedures for cross-disciplinary cooperation, for preventing and investigating the disappearance of minors from care centres and asylum reception centres. It is yet premature to respond to the question posed</p>
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