

Santa Marta Group

Newsletter – October 2025

Featured Reports

Free Movement: Migrant Help to provide training to staff after admitting trafficking policy breach, 30th October 2025.

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World Crunch: How Social Media Makes South Asia's Human Trafficking Worse, 30th October 2025.

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The Guardian: Give me shelter: protecting trafficked children in the US - documentary, 23rd October 2025.

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Thomas Reuters: How forced scamming compounds could be fuelling child sextortion, 23rd October 2025.

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BBC: The mysterious figure accused of masterminding a \$14bn crypto scam, 23rd October 2025.

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The Guardian: Trump's DEI bans undermine anti-human trafficking law, lawsuit alleges, 16th October 2025.

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Relief web: Climate Chains: Mapping the Relationship between Climate, Trafficking in Persons and Building Resilience, 16th October 2025.

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Walk Free: G20 must strengthen its response to modern slavery in global supply chains, 15th October 2025.

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Walk Free: Lawmakers move to weaken Europe's corporate sustainability due diligence directive, 15th October 2025.

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Walk Free: Bolivia prohibits child marriage without exception through new legal reform, 13th October 2025.

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Free Movement: Written decision published by Court of Appeal in France removal case, 10th October 2025.

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Global Press Journal: Social Media Fuels Expansion of Human Trafficking in South Asia, 8th October 2025.

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The Diplomat: Why Tech Firms Can't Afford to Ignore Southeast Asia's Cyber Scam Slavery Crisis, 7th October 2025.

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Walk Free: Urgent action needed as tens of thousands in Ghana experience modern slavery, 5th October 2025.

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US Department of State: State Department Releases 2025 Trafficking in Persons Report, 30th September 2025.

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The Guardian: Delayed US report on global human trafficking is released, 30th September 2025.

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Greenpeace: US soft on human trafficking in new report, 30th September 2025.

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UN Regional Information Centre for Western Europe: Modern forms of slavery: 28 million people into forced labour and 138 million children working, 2nd October 2025.

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United Kingdom and Ireland

Walk Free: Stronger laws proposed to stop forced labour in UK supply chains, *23rd October 2025*.

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Open Democracy: UK's employment visas are causing thousands of legal migrant workers to end up in modern slavery, *31st October 2025*.

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King's College London: Modern slavery risk in UK housebuilding could be hidden in plain sight, *28th October 2025*.

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Construction News: Risk of modern slavery in housebuilding 'poorly understood', *30th October 2025*.

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BBC News: 'I was beaten and treated like a dog by my boss', *30th October 2025*.

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Salvation Army: Rebuilding lives through skills and employment, *23rd October 2025*.

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The Times: Human trafficking claim made against Mohamed Al Fayed at Paris Ritz, *23rd October 2025*.

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Reuters: UK sanctions Balkan people-smuggling gangs ahead of summit in London, *22nd October 2025*.

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UK Parliament: MPs to hold a debate on modern day slavery in Pakistan, *24th October 2025*.

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The Independent: Theresa May calls on businesses to investigate supply chains for modern slavery, *16th October 2025*.

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Daily Mail: Ed Miliband approves biggest solar farm - the size of 1,700 football pitches - despite China slavery concerns, *15th October 2025*.

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Unseen: The £60bn wake-up call: why we must rethink the fight against modern slavery, *15th October 2025*.

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The Conversation: Why it is so hard to estimate the number of victims of modern slavery in the UK, *14th October 2025*.

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Salvation Army: Salvation Army warns Brits still trapped in slavery, *14th October 2025*.

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Irish Examiner: Gardaí join Europol in major operation uncovering online human trafficking and dark web organ trade, *13th October 2025*.

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Nottingham University: Rights Lab review calls for robust modern slavery prevalence estimates in the UK, *13th October 2025*.

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RTE: 35% rise in human trafficking victims engaging with Ruhama, *9th October 2025*.

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GOV.UK: UN Human Rights Council 60: UK Core Group Statement to introduce Item 3 Resolution on Slavery and Trafficking, *8th October 2025*.

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UKAuthority: New tool analyses ads in battle against sexual exploitation, *6th October 2025*.

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Dentons: New joint reporting template released for modern slavery disclosures in Canada, Australia and the UK, *6th October 2025*.

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Police Professional: Modern slavery costing police forces a staggering £210m, says new report, *6th October 2025*.

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ITV News: (VIDEO) Modern slavery uncovered in special report as cases reach record high, *6th October 2025*.

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Free Movement: Briefing: is the modern slavery identification system in the UK being misused? 29th September 2025.

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The Grocer: Is the food and drink industry doing enough to tackle modern slavery? 30th September 2025.

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Mountford Chambers: Baniulyte – Modern Slavery Defence and the Limits of Anonymity, 30th September 2025.

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Law Society Gazette: Ireland still ‘tier two’ in US trafficking report, 1st October 2025.

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Local News

- Aberdeen: Aberdeen man who committed human trafficking and drug crimes jailed for 36 months. [Read more.](#)
- Bristol: Three charged with human trafficking offences. [Read more.](#)
- Essex: Thurrock memorial remembers the 39 Vietnamese victims six years on. [Read more.](#)
- Jersey: “Modern day slavery... can lurk within even the most tightly regulated jurisdictions”. [Read more.](#)
- Lancashire: Partnership approach at heart of event tackling modern slavery. [Read more.](#)
- Liverpool: Tackling modern slavery and exploitation across Merseyside. [Read more.](#)

- Nottinghamshire: £460,000 plan approved to tackle modern slavery across Nottinghamshire. [Read more.](#)
 - North Wales: Major conference to address modern slavery held in Llandudno. [Read more.](#)
 - Suffolk: Tackling the 'grey economy': Officers target crime on the high street. [Read more.](#)
 - Surrey: Surrey deputy PCC says we need to fight slavery. [Read more.](#)
 - West Midlands: Modern slavery arrests after stolen vehicles found. [Read more.](#)
 - Wiltshire: Five arrested in anti-slavery massage parlour sting. [Read more.](#)
 - Warwickshire: Warwickshire DCI recognised for Romanian border police training. [Read more.](#)
 - Warwickshire: Modern slavery survivors enjoy sports and wellbeing day. [Read more.](#)
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Europe

- Austria: Vienna Conference Against Human Trafficking. [Read more.](#)

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: Bosnia Arrests Four Police Officers Suspected of Human Trafficking. [Read more.](#)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: The XVIII Annual Prosecutorial Symposium: Towards Justice: Strengthening the Fight Against Human Trafficking. [Read more.](#)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: Addressing Human Trafficking Risks in Supply Chains. [Read more.](#)
- Bulgaria: Council of Europe expert group examines Bulgaria's efforts to protect vulnerable persons from human trafficking and to ensure effective sanctions for human-trafficking offences. [Read more.](#)
- European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation: International human trafficking ring rolled up in Albania and Colombia. [Read more.](#)
- EUROPOL: 17 suspected human traffickers arrested in Albania and Colombia. [Read more.](#)
- Europol: Over 30 potential victims identified in action against human trafficking enabled online. [Read more.](#)
- German: Germany: Human trafficking on the rise. [Read more.](#)
- Greece: Greece Busts Human Traffickers for Exploiting Nepalese Migrant Workers. [Read more.](#)
- Luxembourg: GRETA carries out its fourth evaluation visit to Luxembourg. [Read more.](#)
- Netherlands: Filipino workers slam Dutch Prosecutor's dismissal of exploitation case against luxury gym. [Read more.](#)

- Russian Federation: Iraqi man convicted for trafficking people to fight for Russia in Ukraine. [Read more.](#)
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Africa

- Algeria: Grande-Marlaska and his Algerian counterpart pledge in Algiers to step up the fight against criminal human trafficking networks. [Read more.](#)
- Ghana: Ghana police rescue 57 Nigerians in crackdown on human trafficking and cybercrime. [Read more.](#)
- Global Initiative: Human smuggling and trafficking in North Africa and the Sahel. [Read more.](#)
- Malawi: Malawi: A deepening crisis in wildlife and human trafficking driven and enabled by corruption. [Read more.](#)
- Morocco: Human Trafficking: Morocco completes alignment with international instruments & standards. [Read more.](#)
- Nigeria: Pepperdine Sudreau Global Justice Institute Partners with Lagos State Ministry of Justice to Host Inaugural 2025 Colloquium Against Human Trafficking. [Read more.](#)
- Morocco: Moroccan court sentences man accused of trafficking people to scam compound in Asia. [Read more.](#)
- South Africa: DSD strengthens efforts against human trafficking. [Read more.](#)

Asia and Oceania

- ASEAN: Secretary-General of ASEAN holds virtual meeting with the Chair of the Global Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. [Read more.](#)
- Australia: Reports of modern slavery in Australia reach record high as calls grow for stronger national response. [Read more.](#)
- Australia: Govt launches strategic plan for combatting modern slavery. [Read more.](#)
- Cambodia: How US Made Its Largest Crypto Seizure, Busting A Cambodian Human-Trafficking And Fraud Ring Worth \$15 Billion. [Read more.](#)
- Hong Kong: Why has the US government put Hong Kong on its human trafficking watchlist? [Read more.](#)
- Myanmar: Notorious cyber scam hub linked to Chinese mafia raided. [Read more.](#)
- Iraq: Baghdad, Erbil strengthen coordination to combat human trafficking: Official. [Read more.](#)
- Indonesia: 'Modern slavery': Indonesians in clutches of scam syndicates. [Read more.](#)
- Philippines: Philippines Renews Warning on Human Trafficking After Four Filipinos Rescued from Laos. [Read more.](#)

- Saudi Arabia: What Is Kafala System? Saudi Arabia Ends 'Modern Slavery' That Affected 2.3 Million Indians. [Read more.](#)
 - Taiwan: Taiwan maintains Tier 1 status in US anti-human trafficking report. [Read more.](#)
 - Thailand: Thai Children trapped between online scams and trafficking rings. [Read more.](#)
 - UAE: Inside UAE shelter offering second chance to women rescued from human trafficking rings. [Read more.](#)
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Latin America

- UNDP: Organized crime and human development: the urgency of a structural response in Latin America. [Read more.](#)
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North America

- Canada: 2025 Modern Slavery Reporting in Canada: What the Data Shows. [Read more.](#)
- Canada: Invisible no more: Confronting the missing and murdered Indigenous women crisis in Canada. [Read more.](#)
- USA: Bank of America, Bank of New York sued for alleged ties to Jeffrey Epstein. [Read more.](#)
- USA: 'Like human trafficking': how US deported five men to Eswatini. [Read more.](#)

- Maryland, USA: Creating a Path for Human Trafficking Survivors. [Read more.](#)
- New York: US Supreme Court rejects Ghislaine Maxwell appeal in Epstein case. [Read more.](#)
- USA: 'Like human trafficking': how US deported five men to Eswatini. [Read more.](#)