

# Santa Marta Group

Newsletter – September 2025

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## Featured Reports

Open Democracy: Al Fayed's victims say compensation scheme ignores 'trafficking' by Harrods, 11th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

The Guardian: Revealed: Trump administration retreats on combating human trafficking and child exploitation, 17th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

BBC: Sex ad analysis tool leads to trafficking arrests, 18th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

University of Sheffield: New digital tool helps police forces identify potential victims of human trafficking, 18th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

Free Movement: Home Office amends modern slavery guidance to facilitate returns to France following High Court decision, 18th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

Thomson Reuters: Unmasking human trafficking: A collective fight to end sex trafficking & exploitation, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

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

- [Read the full report here.](#)

Al Jazeera: Iraqi man convicted for trafficking people to fight for Russia in Ukraine, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

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## United Kingdom and Ireland

The Independent: Hundreds of modern slavery victims working in Britain's hospitality industry, charity warns, 17th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

EIN: Eritrean asylum seeker wins first legal challenge to UK-France 'one in, one out' deal over trafficking fears, 17th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

The Guardian: What the court decision to block deportation means for Labour's 'one in, one out' deal with France, 17th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

EIN: First asylum seeker returned under UK-France agreement as Home Office begins review of modern slavery legislation, 18th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

The Guardian: UK anti-slavery commissioner condemns Shabana Mahmood's asylum comments, 18th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

BBC: A life sentence for us, it should be for him, says trafficking victim, 23rd September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

Wirral View: Freedom bus comes to Wirral to raise awareness of modern slavery, 25th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

ITVX: Joining officers on undercover modern slavery operation as victim referrals hit record high, 25th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

Legal Cheek: Human trafficking in the UK: Confronting a legal and human rights crisis, 24th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

ITVX: Jess Phillips pledges to reduce backlog of 'heinous' modern slavery cases, 24th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

STV News: Six to stand trial over trafficking women into Scotland for sex work, 29th September 2025.

- [Read the full report here.](#)

## Europe

EU: (Event) | “AI and Human Trafficking: threats, tools and legal frontiers” – Conference at the European Parliament, 30 September. [Read more.](#)

Italy: Italy and Turkey to cooperate closer to curb irregular migration. [Read more.](#)

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## Africa

Angola: Q&A with Sr. Carla Luisa Frey Bamberg, tackling human trafficking in Angola. [Read more.](#)

Kenya: ‘ChatGPT was helping’: Kenyan human trafficking survivor reveals AI role in Myanmar scam centres. [Read more.](#)

Kenya: Police break up ring trafficking Kenyans to fight for Russia in Ukraine. [Read more.](#)

South Africa: Chinese nationals jailed over kidnapping and forced labour in South Africa. [Read more.](#)

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## Asia and Oceania

Australia: United Nations pushes Australia on modern slavery. [Read more.](#)

Lebanon: Lebanon’s Fight Against Trafficking: How One Judge’s Decision Could Help Preserve the Country’s Standing. [Read more.](#)

New Zealand: A Look at New Zealand’s Two Proposed Corporate Modern Slavery Reporting Bills. [Read more.](#)

New Zealand: A group of institutional investors and NZ businesses are calling for legislation that addresses 'a big gap' in this country's regulatory landscape. [Read more.](#)

Syria: Interview: Thousands of minority girls abducted in Syria for ransom, trafficking – and slavery. [Read more.](#)

Timor-Leste: East Timor: The Newest Frontier for Transnational Scam Networks. [Read more.](#)

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## Latin America

Mexico: Five charts that show the challenge of countering Mexico’s criminal organizations. [Read more.](#)

Venezuela: Human trafficking of Venezuelans explodes into \$2.6 billion industry, report says. [Read more.](#)

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## **North America**

USA: IJM Mobilizes Hundreds on Capitol Hill to Protect Children Online and Push Forward Anti-Trafficking Legislation. [Read more.](#)

USA: House panel pushes Trump administration on combating human trafficking. [Read more.](#)

USA: ‘Find it in your heart to seek the truth’: Epstein survivor pushes for lawmakers to release files. [Read more.](#)

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