



# Position Paper

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Human trafficking is showing no sign of decline as of the latest figures of 2018. Faced with an increase of use of new technologies as well as a worldwide network of perpetrators, human trafficking stands in the forefront of the humanitarian threats to humankind in 2019. While sexual exploitation seems to be replaced by forced labor, one should not underestimate the major impact human trafficking has on the lives of thousands of people every year. The Republic of Cuba fully understand the reprehensible nature of such vicious activities while noticing that those activities have been conducted, and are still conducted to a certain extent, on Cuban soil.

The Government of Cuba has done extensive operations in order to reduce and prosecute perpetrators of human trafficking crimes. Mainly, the Republic made considerable attempts in order to prevent sexual trafficking. This harder stance on the issue lead to a substantial decrease in sexual trafficking and an increase in the associated lawsuits.

Notably, there has been a big investment to raise public awareness to the problem of sexual trafficking by means of social media and advertising. The sex-tourism industry has been heavily targeted in order to eliminate any sex-related tourism on Cuban soil. The Government is working in order to better identify and protect Cuban citizens abroad against the forced sexual labor danger.

The Delegation of Cuba strongly condemns any action related to human trafficking but is found with limited resources to attribute to this cause due to the international situation regarding the trade, and thereof economic sanction held against our Republic. While recent call to lift the embargo has been made in this very assembly, Cuba still faces difficulty in basic functioning, preventing the Republic to make use of its full potential and work towards better repression and prevention of human trafficking.

The Republic of Cuba believes that human trafficking should by now be considered an historical fact rather than a current issue. The Delegation of the Republic of Cuba trusts in the power of undivided international cooperation in order to eradicate human trafficking from the face of the Earth.