

TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Combating human trafficking on the East-West entry route into the European Union (AR-STOP)

About the Project

Trafficking in human beings remains a persistent threat along the Romania–Moldova corridor, where high transit flows, shared socio-economic vulnerabilities, and pressures linked to the war in Ukraine heighten risks of exploitation. As coordinated action is needed to strengthen border security and safeguard vulnerable people, the overall aim of the project is to enhance transnational operational effectiveness and cooperation in combating trafficking in human beings affecting Romania, the Republic of Moldova and the wider EU. To achieve this, the initiative prioritizes reducing vulnerabilities through community engagement, strengthening public awareness, support for both potential and actual victims, as well as enhancing national and cross-border cooperation and capacity building to ensure a sustainable institutional impact.



Partners

This MPF project is implemented by the Arad County Police Inspectorate in Romania, in collaboration with the General Inspectorate of Border Police and the General Inspectorate of Police of the Republic of Moldova.



Countries

Romania, Republic of Moldova



Time frame

January 2026 – December 2027



Budget

EUR 639,306.99 (94.64% from ISF)

Activities



Increase public awareness of human trafficking

The first component of the project focuses on raising public awareness about the dangers of trafficking in human beings. Targeted campaigns reaching vulnerable and at-risk groups will inform communities about the warning signs and tactics used by traffickers, empowering individuals to identify risks and report suspicious activities.

The campaigns' core message will be widely disseminated across social media and other platforms with the aim to strengthen community resilience and prevent exploitation.



Improve support for victims of trafficking

This component strengthens frontline officers' ability to respond effectively and humanely to victims of trafficking. The trainings will emphasise empathy, active listening, cultural and gender sensitivity, non-judgmental approaches and proper referral to support services.

Through scenario-based learning and role-playing exercises, officers will practice victim-centred communication that builds trust and ensures respectful, compassionate interaction.



Strengthen operational capacity

Criminal networks involved in trafficking human beings are highly adaptable, frequently altering their methods, routes and communication patterns in response to law enforcement actions, travel restrictions and changing conditions. To keep pace with these evolving tactics, law enforcement agencies require high-performance software and hardware tools that enhance their ability to respond rapidly and effectively to emerging threats. In this context, acquiring advanced data collection and monitoring systems—including audio receivers with built-in recorders, integrated monitoring platforms, geolocation tools, and secure data access systems—is essential.

These systems will offer real-time geolocation tracking, advanced surveillance capabilities, and secure information management, significantly improving the operational effectiveness and overall response capacity of the Border Police. The equipment will be used for evidence gathering, traffickers' vehicles interception, victims rescue, and the prevention of illegal cross-border movements.

Implemented by:



The Migration Partnership Facility



Migration Partnership Facility

This project is implemented by ICMPD within the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), an EU-funded initiative that supports the external dimension of EU migration policy. Through its Grants and Technical Assistance and Support components, the MPF facilitates the implementation of projects that strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between EU Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

Funded by the European Union



MPF@icmpd.org



www.migrationpartnershipfacility.eu



@MPF_ICMPD

Implemented by ICMPD



ICMPD

International Centre for
Migration Policy Development