

Annual Report 2020

A year in review



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From the director

Despite the unusual circumstances, HEUNI managed not only to stay operational, but to soar! We not only fulfilled our goals but managed to develop and strengthen our work and expand our outreach.

IT'S DIFFICULT to write something brief about the year 2020. In many respects, 2020 will be remembered as a turning point. It goes without saying that the COVID-19 pandemic has affected everyone in one way or the other. The pandemic changed the way we work almost overnight: HEUNI staff started working from home on 13 March 2020, and we are still working mostly from home. Overnight we switched from face-to-face meetings into an online presence. Despite the unusual circumstances, HEUNI managed not only to stay operational, but to soar! We not only fulfilled our goals but managed to develop and strengthen our work and expand our outreach. I am really proud of and grateful to all HEUNI staff who showed such perseverance and resilience during this exceptional year.

The pandemic also changed the way we cooperate with our partners. HEUNI's work is international, but as so many others, we were unable to meet our friends, colleagues and project partners in other countries. It is a great pity that the UN Crime Congress in Kyoto in March 2020 had to be postponed together with several other major international events. Teams, Zoom and Skype cannot replace the value of connecting face-to-face. However, I am confident that we'll learn something from all of this: some travel can surely be replaced with online meetings also in the future, making those trips that we do take ever so more special and precious.

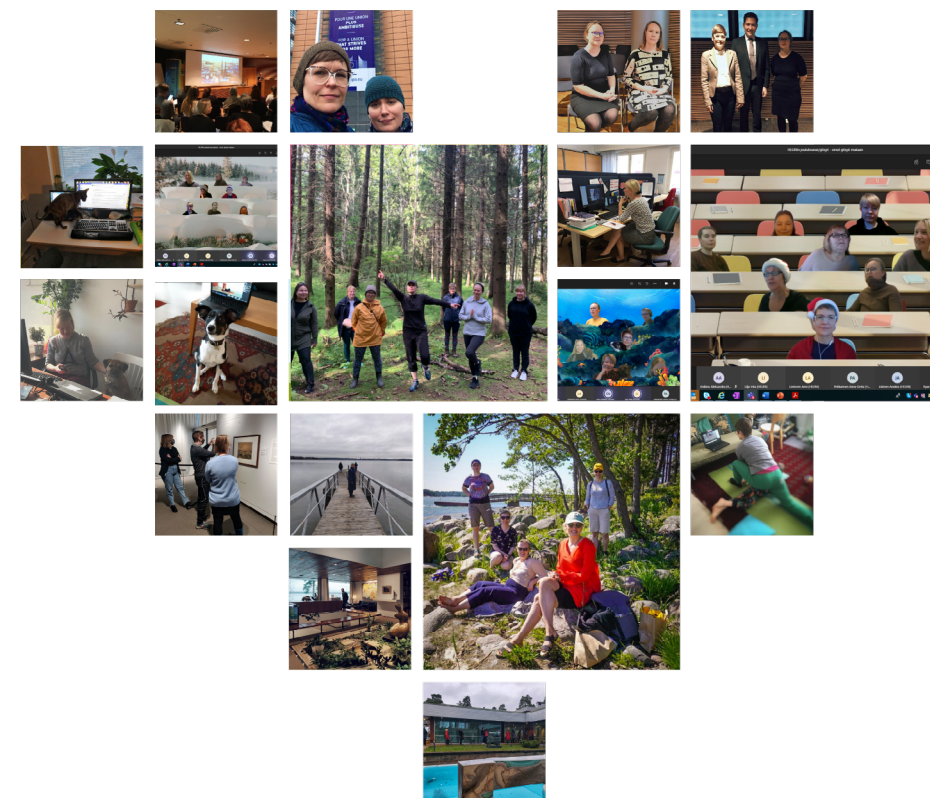
1 Flows of illicit funds and victims of human trafficking: uncovering the complexities. Grant Agreement number: 814791

As you can see in this Annual report, we published several reports and handbooks, and engaged with a huge number of stakeholders in various online settings. I wish to draw your attention in particular to the materials developed under the FLOW project¹: the investigation tool for police and labour inspectors, and the toolkit for businesses. Both publications are state-of-the-art resources that provide practitioners and business actors with tested, practical and concrete methods to prevent and address exploitation of migrant workers. They are available free of charge for anyone who needs them.

This year also brought some major staff changes at HEUNI. Dr Minna Viuhko, a longtime researcher and expert at HEUNI was appointed Senior Specialist at the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health in March 2020. We were sad to see her go but are happy to continue cooperating with Minna in her new position. As of the beginning of 2021 we have a permanent communications expert as well as a permanent junior researcher. Congratulations Aleksandra Anikina and Anna-Greta Pekkarinen for taking up these important positions!

NATALIA OLLUS,
HEUNI DIRECTOR

HEUNI values



Fairness and justice

We aim at a fair and just world by advocating for upholding human rights in the criminal justice system. We are an open and constructive collaborator for our partners. At work, HEUNI team members act in fair and just ways towards each other.

Courage and confidence

We stand our ground. We base our courage on facts collected from research. We take on difficult topics. We know that some bold attempts do not lead to success. We are perseverant and resilient.

Knowledge, professionalism and quality

We are always knowledge-based. We do quality and impactful action-oriented research and deliver quality outcomes. Internally we take care of sharing knowledge so that it is always owned by the team, not just by an individual. and just ways towards each other.

Imagination and resourcefulness

We think big and work in grounded ways. We use our resources wisely in order to achieve the greatest possible impact. We are an inspiring working community.

2020 at a glance

February

HEUNI and invited experts presented to Finnish decision-makers and authorities the results of a study on how refugee women who have experienced gender-based violence struggle to claim their rights as asylum seekers and victims of crime.

The event was opened by Thomas Blomqvist, Minister for Nordic Cooperation and Equality.

HEUNI's expert Inka Lilja presented the research findings and outlined policy recommendations

March

The FLOW project study visit and international workshop were organized in Brussels, Belgium on 5-6 March 2020. The visit brought together FLOW partners and their guests, representing law enforcement and labour inspection authorities from Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland and Latvia as well as Belgian experts and stakeholders. The trip included meetings with Belgian trafficking experts representing different authorities and NGOs to learn more about their approach in tackling

May

Discussion with the Minister of the Interior on gender-based violence experienced by women and girls seeking asylum. HEUNI presented its latest research on the topic including policy recommendations and tools to enhance skills for victims support.

April

HEUNI was invited by the Finnish National Trafficking Coordinator to join the expert group that is in charge of developing the new National Action Plan (NAP) for the work against human trafficking in Finland.

Natalia Ollus and Anniina Jokinen representing HEUNI proposed e.g. the institutionalisation of multiagency cooperation, specialisation among the police and prosecutors, and stronger protection of victims.

October

Report revealing interlinkages between marriage and human trafficking published as a part of the UNODC publication series.

June

HEUNI's director Natalia Ollus participated in an online roundtable dialogue on child trafficking with partners from the Baltic Sea Region. The dialogue, entitled "If you speak up, I will join!" was organised by the Swedish Platform Civil Society Against Human Trafficking, Association Centre Marta in Latvia, Charity Fund Galaxy and ECPAT Norway.

The presentation, together with other learning materials and an impressive photo exhibition by survivors of trafficking, can be found at the regional platform <https://ifyouspeakup.com/>

August

HEUNI became a part of a new national project, entitled "IKUT - development of working life skills and competencies for victims of trafficking in Finland". During the two year-project, HEUNI will be contributing to the organising of thematic seminars and training for companies on labour exploitation and trafficking within the framework of corporate social responsibility and business and human rights approaches. The project is led by the Finnish Immigration Services (Migri) and HEUNI chairs the project's steering group.

November

HEUNI together with the Police University College launched a series of reports on corruption in the Finnish context. The reports describe corruption in Finland and the difficulties of measuring it, and propose a set of indicators for measuring it in the future. The Summary report is available in English.

HEUNI policy brief by Anna-Greta Pekkarinen on the role of the police in tackling intimate partner violence (IPV) was published on 25 November, on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

December

The FLOW project final webinars brought together more than 200 anti-trafficking experts and business representatives around Europe. You can access the recording of the online events [here](#).

Operational Framework

THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL, AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (HEUNI) FUNCTIONS

under the joint auspices of the Government of Finland and the United Nations as an independent research and policy-making institute. HEUNI was established in 1981 with an agreement between Finland and the United Nations.

HEUNI's work is guided by its founding statutes, which state that HEUNI:

- organises seminars for policy-makers, administrators, experts and researchers;
- collects, provides, publishes and disseminates information;
- conducts research;
- and holds conferences and meetings.

HEUNI's work is increasingly focusing on conducting research, on publishing the findings in easily accessible formats, disseminating the findings to relevant stakeholders, and participating in policy-making related to the institute's areas of focus.

HEUNI's menu of services include the development of research methodologies, the collection and analysis of various forms of data, the development of indicators, measures, practical tools and guidelines, and the provision of training.

HEUNI selects and develops its areas of focus independently but is guided by the priorities of the United Nations.

HEUNI's mandate of work covers all of Europe but HEUNI aims to transfer European practices and knowledge also beyond this geographic region.

HEUNI is the European regional institute in the United Nations Criminal Justice and Crime Prevention programme network (PNI). HEUNI's affiliation with the United Nations means that HEUNI collaborates with other members of this network, closely follows the work of the UN vis-à-vis the prevention of crime and crime control within the framework of criminal justice and supports the UN in the implementation of its priorities, in particular the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.



HEUNI'S ORGANISATION

HEUNI has a professional and motivated team of experts and efficient administrative processes that supports the work of the institute. In 2020, HEUNI staff consisted of 8 persons. HEUNI employed 1 intern in 2020.

Director

Natalia Ollus

Senior Programme Officers

Inka Lilja

Anniina Jokinen

Researchers

Anni Lietonen

Anna-Greta Pekkarinen

Communications Officer

Aleksandra Anikina

Administrative Assistant

Jaana Ryan

Project Secretary

Aili Pääkkönen

ADVISORY BOARD

The international Advisory Board of HEUNI serves as an important link with the United Nations and the various regions of Europe. The Chairman of the Advisory Board and four of its members are appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations after consultation with the Government of Finland. Four members of the Board, including the Director of HEUNI, are appointed by the Government of Finland.

The members of the Advisory Board are appointed for a period of five years. For the 2018 – 2022 term the composition of the Board is as follows:

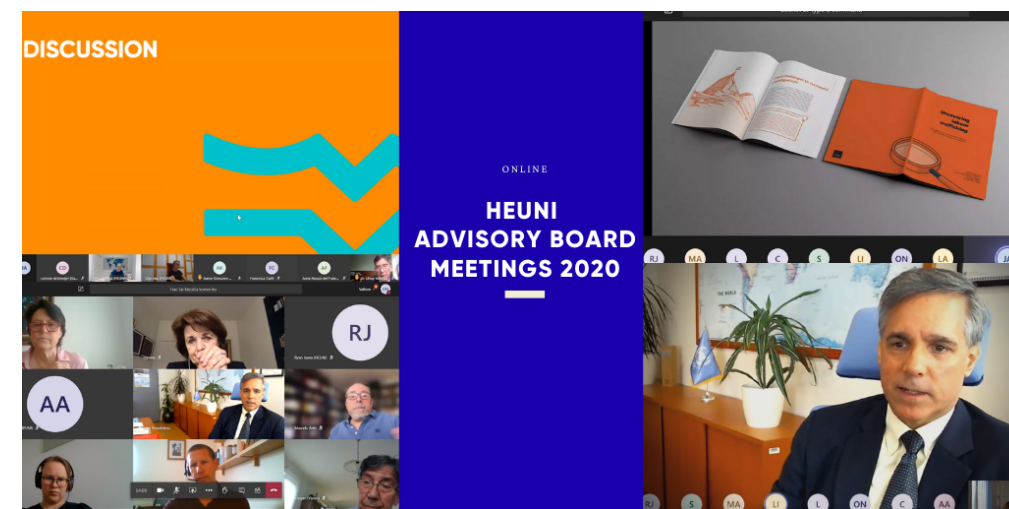
- Dr Miklós Lévay, Professor of Criminology and Criminal Law, Head of the Department of Criminology, Faculty of Law, Eötvös Loránd University, Chairman of the Board
- Dr Anna Alvazzi del Frate, Research Director, Small Arms Survey, Italy
- Dr Marcelo Aebi, Professor of Criminology, University of Lausanne and Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona,

Switzerland

- Ms Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children, The Netherlands
- Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs, UNODC (ex officio member)
- Dr Aarne Kinnunen, Deputy Director, Department of Criminal Policy, Ministry of Justice, Finland
- Dr Kimmo Nuotio, Professor of Criminal Law, University of Helsinki, Finland
- Ms Sirpa Rautio, Director of the Human Rights Centre, Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman, Finland
- Dr Steven Malby, United Kingdom
- Dr Natalia Ollus, Director, HEUNI

A representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime participates ex officio in all deliberations of the Advisory Board.

The 2020 annual meeting of the Advisory Board was held online and in 2 sessions.



HEUNI's budget

The main administrative and budgetary responsibility for HEUNI lies with the Government of Finland but part of the institute's turnover is covered through the participation in externally funded projects and grants from, among others, the European Commission, the Government of Finland, and the United Nations.

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020

	2020	2021 (projection)
1. Salaries and fees - total	496000,00	530000,00
2. Other costs	119958,00	107100,00
TOTAL	615958,00	637100,00
Funding from the Ministry of Justice	525000,00	525000,00
Project funding	90958,00	112100,00

Focus areas

HEUNI is a bold front-runner in creating and sharing uncompromised knowledge on the prevention of crime within the framework of criminal justice. We engage policymakers, practitioners and researchers in frank discussions to tackle current problems. We develop innovative and action-oriented solutions to advance the rights of those affected by crime.

1

Improving access to justice and the the quality of services for vulnerable victims of crime.

4

Strengthening the the criminal justice responses to, including identification of human trafficking and similar crimes (such as forced marriage, exploitation of children and young people, labour exploitation).

2

Strengthening the understanding of and the responses to economic crime and corporate crime.

5

Identifying a new area of research in line with global crime threats and megatrends.

3

Enhancing the skills of businesses and public procurement agencies to identify and prevent exploitation in supply chains.

6

Strengthening the role of HEUNI in implementing the priorities of the United Nations visà-vis the prevention of crime and crime control.

**FLOW. Flows of illicit funds and victims of human trafficking:
uncovering the complexities
2018 - 2020**

The EU ISF-P funded FLOW project focused on analysing the business model of labour exploitation and the links between labour trafficking, exploitation and economic crimes in Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Bulgaria.

Coordinated by HEUNI and the project partners: University of Tartu, Ministry of the Interior of Latvia and the Center for the Study of Democracy, the project developed tools to enhance capacity of businesses and authorities to detect, investigate and prevent cases of labour exploitation.

Human trafficking is an end result of complex interconnections between unsustainable business practices, organized crime, corruption and illicit flows. When tackling this nexus understanding these connections, and cooperation between business, law enforcement and labour inspectors is crucial. And moreover, the needs and rights of the victim of trafficking should be at the core of the actions taken.

FLOW project final webinars brought together more than 200 anti-trafficking experts and business representatives around Europe.

The project cooperated with a large number of supporting organisations, namely the Central Finland and Ostrobothnia Police Departments, Labour Inspectorate of Southern Finland, State Police of Latvia, State Labour Inspectorate of Latvia, General Directorate Countering Organised Crime at the Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria, General Labour Inspectorate Executive Agency of Bulgaria, Ministry of Justice Estonia, Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund (EURES), State Police of Estonia, Estonian Prosecutor's Office, Corporate Social Responsibility Platform of Latvia (CSR Latvia) and Employers' Confederation of Latvia (LDDK), Estonian Association of Construction Entrepreneurs, Confederation of Finnish Construction Industries RT (CFCI), ArcTech Helsinki Shipyard and Building Information Group.

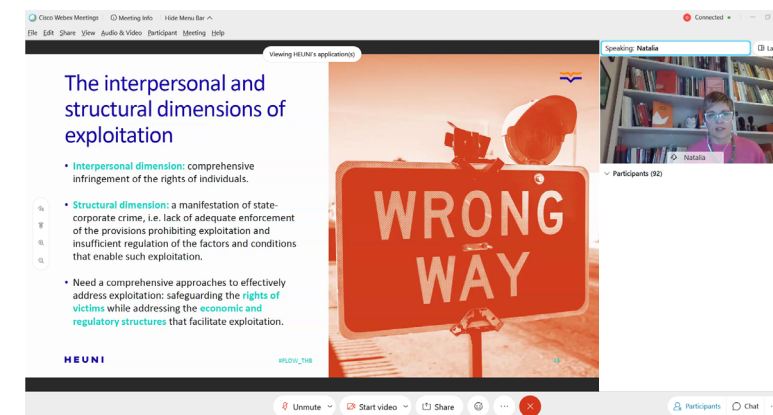


The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequent extension of the project by 3 months allowed the project partners to focus their efforts on strengthening the outreach and impact of the project both nationally and internationally.

Throughout the project, more than 50 events and bilateral meetings were organised to discuss and disseminate FLOW-project findings, as well as the two policy briefs summarising the main points of the tools for policy-makers and other target audiences. These events reached more than 3300 participants.

The project final conference and series of different online/hybrid events allowed the project to reach a bigger and a more international, European audience than originally planned. The final conference in the form of two webinars reached over 210 persons rather than the 60 persons planned for the Tallinn-based conference. Project savings were used to translate the FLOW policy briefs to additional two languages: Swedish and Polish, which allows the project to reach millions of more Europeans than originally planned.

The project dissemination efforts also resulted in 16,665 website views. At least 10 000 people have seen and/or been informed about the FLOW publications and more than 250 000 persons have been informed about the project. In social media, over 273,761 Twitter users were reached with #FLOW_THB hashtag. In Facebook and other social media platforms, additional 38,168 views were received. Adapting to the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, project partners enhanced availability of the project materials also via video recordings presenting FLOW project outcomes. This demonstrates the added value of the innovative and unique tools developed.



Interlinkages between trafficking in persons and marriage 2017 – 2019, Issue Paper publication 2020

The purpose of the assignment was to assist UNODC in the development of a technical paper that will contain two parts: a research component and a policy component. HEUNI implemented the research component, which will explore the extent to which different forms of marriage trafficking fall under the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol (or the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol).

HEUNI's Senior Programme Officer Anniina Jokinen and former researcher Minna Viuhko together with UNODC colleagues collected data from 9 countries (Germany, Thailand, Vietnam, Canada, South Africa, Malawi, Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, Jordan) and interviewed 150 experts on this complex topic. The research also explored the various modus operandi used for different forms of marriage trafficking, as well as the profile of the victims and the offenders.

"It became apparent early on that human trafficking in the context of marriage is a particularly complex and sensitive subject", HEUNI's Anniina Jokinen explains. The level of awareness on the topic varies in different countries and contexts. However, expert interviews and consultations helped shed light on the challenges involved and to identify some of the key characteristics of forced, abusive and exploitative marriages that may have links to human trafficking.

The UNODC Issue Paper¹ published in 2020 outlined different links between forced, abusive and exploitative marriage and human trafficking and shows the gendered nature of this underreported form of trafficking. Those women and girls who are affected by different forms of gender discrimination and harmful practices are particularly vulnerable to exploitation.

Forced, child and sham marriages in certain cases were found to have links to all three elements of trafficking: act, means and purpose. However, few such cases come to the attention of the criminal justice authorities and even fewer lead to convictions.

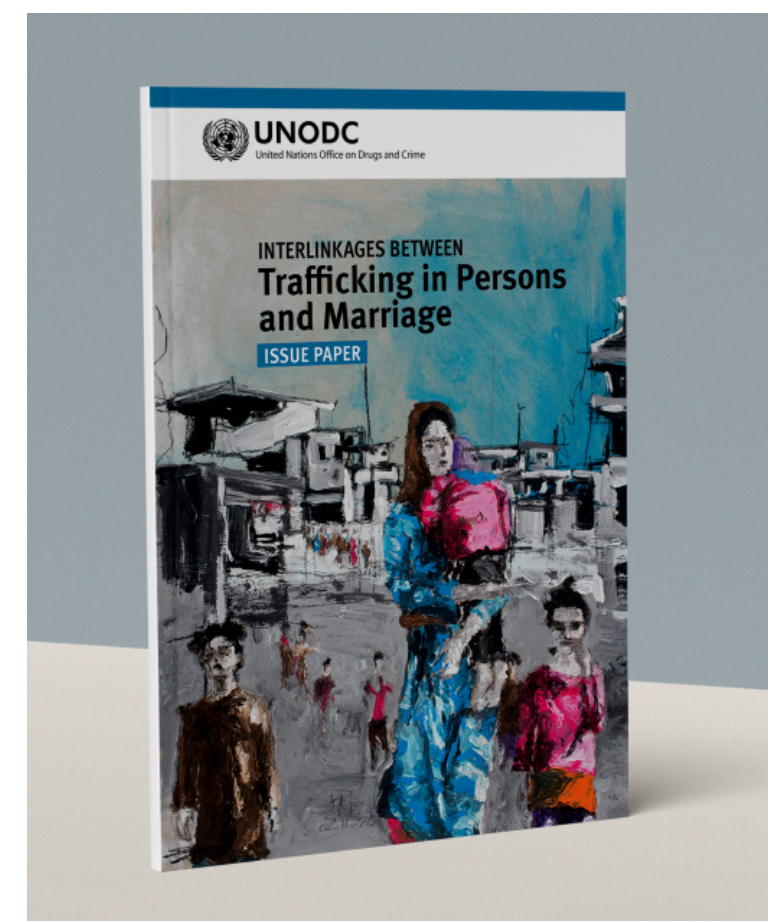
The victims have difficulties seeking help and few cases are reported to the police or investigated as trafficking. *"It is important that the authorities are aware of this phenomenon and that the investigation is sensitive to the needs of the victims",* Anniina Jokinen notes. More attention should be paid to the extent and forms of exploitation, the different control measures imposed on the victim, the victim's

dependency, and their possibilities to leave the marriage, seek assistance and access justice.

Ultimately, multifaceted prevention efforts are needed to address the phenomenon in close cooperation with local communities and civil society organisations.

The report also includes several concrete policy recommendations that countries can adopt to prevent cases of trafficking linked to marriage, to identify and protect the victims of this crime, and to prosecute the traffickers.

1. UNODC Issues Paper. Interlinkages between Trafficking in Persons and Marriage <https://heuni.fi/-/marriage-trafficking>



KORSI. Corruption monitoring indicators in Finland 2019 – 2020

The project aimed to identify and develop quantitative and qualitative indicators of corruption suited to Finland as a basis for regular monitoring. Corruption risk areas in Finland include, in particular, public procurement, the political operating environment as well as construction and urban planning. Corruption occurs at different levels of government, and in the interface between the private and public sector.

Monitoring data is needed on many forms of corruption that are hard to identify. The project developed indicators to describe various forms of unethical decision-making and influencing. Attention was also focused on competitive bidding, funding of political activities and corruption related to construction.

The project identified monitoring methods and indicators by means of the relevant literature, surveys and statistics. Media monitoring, expert surveys, workshops and themed interviews were of assistance in selecting, piloting and assessing the indicators.

The project was managed by the Police University College. HEUNI participated in the development of indicators and their validation.

The key recommendations developed during the project relate to five areas:

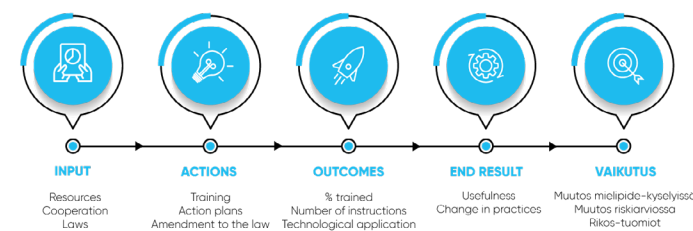
- methods for producing quantitative data;
- methods that describe the multidimensional nature of corruption and new generation methods;
- open data and data usability;
- methodological development and research needs;
- and the perspectives of corruption control policy.

In practice, this means that in order to monitor the status of corruption, quantitative basic data, versatile methods, modern ways of information acquisition, separate studies and comprehensive risk assessments should be used, among other things.

The last section of the final report gives many examples of methods and indicators for monitoring corruption brought up in the other reports of the KORSI project. They include comprehensive models for monitoring corruption, proposals for using survey and register data, and observations based on sector-specific analyses.



PICTURE 1. The overview of risk management and assessment of various risks.



PICTURE 2. Strategic change process and performance evaluation.

RE-JUST. Towards a more responsive victim-centered approach of the criminal justice system
2020 - ongoing

The project seeks to identify strategies and action plans to improve victims' access to justice. From the beginning of 2020 HEUNI has been participating in an EU-funded project titled "Towards a more responsive victim-centered approach of the criminal justice system" (RE-JUST). The project is coordinated by Pro Refugiu Association from Romania and implemented in partnership with Center for the Study of Democracy from Bulgaria, Solwodi from Germany, Dinamia S. Coop. Mad from Spain, and HEUNI from Finland.

The project will contribute to enhancing a more victim-centered criminal justice system. The project seeks to identify strategies and action plans to improve victims' access to justice. Victims are often overlooked, as the criminal justice system tends to focus on legal aspects and on ensuring the rights of offenders. Victims have also rights in the criminal justice process, including that their voice must be heard and respected.

By targeting criminal justice practitioners, the project will enhance relevant institutions' capacity to ensure a victim-centered approach in line with European standards. The project will also bring together stakeholders from various European regions, promoting transnational exchange of expertise.



Project objectives:

- Assess promising practices on victim-centered approaches in the European criminal justice systems.
- Build the capacity of key-stakeholders in the criminal justice system in order to promote the inclusion of trauma-responsive approach
- Facilitate trans-national cooperation and dialogue among stakeholders from EU Member States.

Project activities:

- Expert and stakeholder meetings, roundtables and conferences at the national and transnational level.
- Assessing promising practices in judicial procedures in 5 EU Member States and complete national reports and a joint compendium on promising practices.
- Create strategies/guidelines to ensure victims' rights protection, and incorporate such strategies in to comprehensive action plans.

Project website: <http://re-just.prorefugiu.eu/>

PNI network

HEUNI aims at a fair and just world by advancing humane and rational criminal justice policies and systems in the European region, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

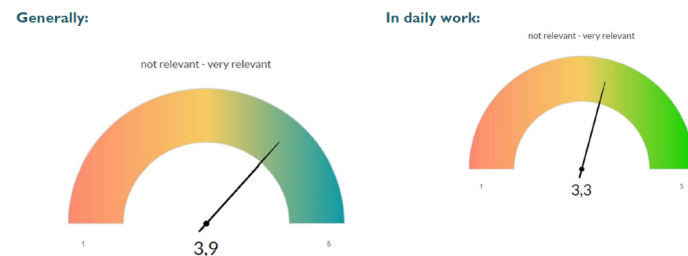
One of our focus areas is strengthening the role of HEUNI in implementing the priorities of the United Nations vis-à-vis the prevention of crime and crime control.

STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2020:

- Implement a PNI survey to support the process of revitalizing the PNI.
- Identify key PNIs for closer collaboration.
- Define criteria for collaboration and engagement with project partners à develop a checklist for these criteria.
- Develop an internal template/ToR for HEUNI principles for partnerships.

HEUNI, on behalf of the PNI, developed and implemented a survey aimed at assessing the views of the PNI members as regards to the work, role and practicalities of the PNI, and to open up a discussion about the role and function of the PNI in the 2020s. The survey was completed by 13 members and the outcomes of the survey were discussed in the PNI spring coordination meeting hosted by HEUNI in June 2020.

Institutes feel that the PNI is relevant, but the relevance does not translate into day-to-day work.



Based on the findings of the survey there is a need to modernize the PNI in order to better reflect and respond to the world of today. Most respondents to the survey felt that the PNI is a relevant actor, and that its main role should be to support the UN Crime Programme substantially, at the same time many respondents also believed that there is an unexplored potential for cooperation between the PNI, for example in relation to research, training activities and information sharing.

Moreover, looking at the role of the PNI at the UN, most respondents argued that preparation of background material for meetings should be an important task for the PNI, while there was a consensus among the respondents that the PNI also had a role to play as experts and panelists in substantive discussions. Most respondents were of the opinion that the PNI, as a network, was not sufficiently known and visible in the in the UN context, as well as in other contexts, and that more joint events could be a way of addressing this issue. It was debated whether there is a role for the PNI in the UN beyond the regular UNODC setting, due to the cross-cutting nature of many of the issues addressed by the UN Crime Programme and the “one UN” approach.

It was also noted that there is already a lot of cooperation going on the between the members of the network, but the PNI should increase sharing of information with each other in a more systematic way, including through increased use of on-line meetings.

THE WAY FORWARD

01 Business mostly as usual?

Sharing of information between institutes improved within current resources.

Some low key improvement to improve visibility of the PNIs among relevant stakeholders.

Coordinators should have commitment and resources of their own to facilitate sharing of information and to organise some joint PNI ventures.

02 PNI 2.0?

Light vision and strategy process to define aims of the PNI.

Coordinator+ with emphasis on enhancing internal communications and organizing more joint ventures.

More systematically offer PNI expert services to the UNODC and larger UN.

Some ad hoc funding for joint PNI work eg. joint webinars or a research pilot.

03 A new bold PNI?

Create PNI vision and strategy, rules of procedure

Create PNI secretariat and budget.

Secretariat facilitates exchange of information between institutes, increases visibility of the PNI amongst stakeholders and facilitates joint research, events and training.

Systematic and strategic co-operation with UN beyond Commission and Congress and also with other UN entities.

PNI Criminal Justice Knowledge Center



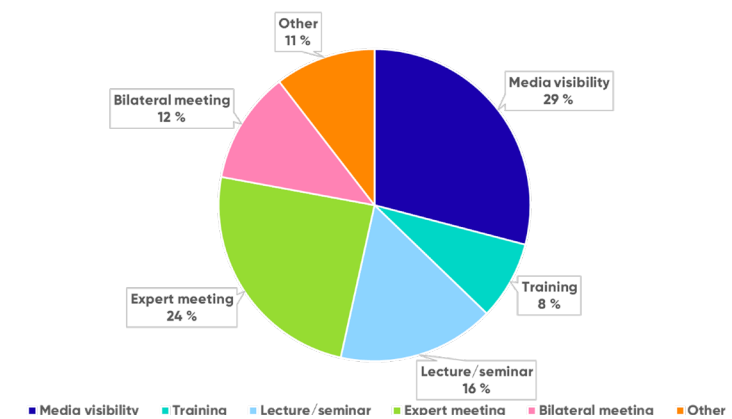
The newly established PNI Criminal Justice Knowledge Center is a service of the United Nations Programme Network Institutes (PNI) with coordination of The Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights as a user based resource for those working or interested in criminal justice. It is intended to provide both generic and individualized responses to user information requests.

Find out more at <http://justiceknowledgecenter.org/>

Communication and outreach

This year HEUNI also made a step forward towards a new visual identity. As a result, we have rehauled the HEUNI logo and launched our new website.

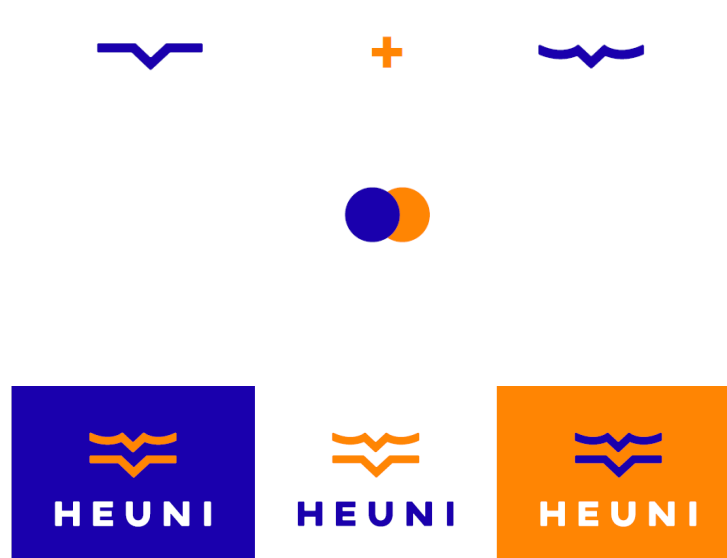
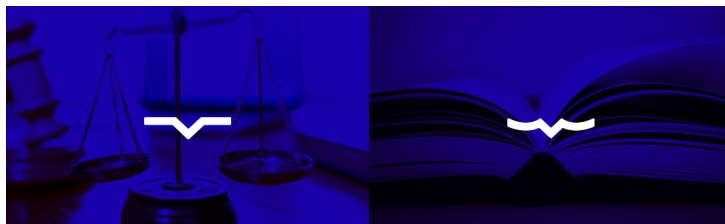
IN 2020 WE HAVE PRODUCED 19 written outputs of our work, such as reports, policy briefs, official statements, articles and blog posts, reached out to 3154 persons during events organised, our work was included in more than 25 publications in media in addition to appearances on TV and radio.



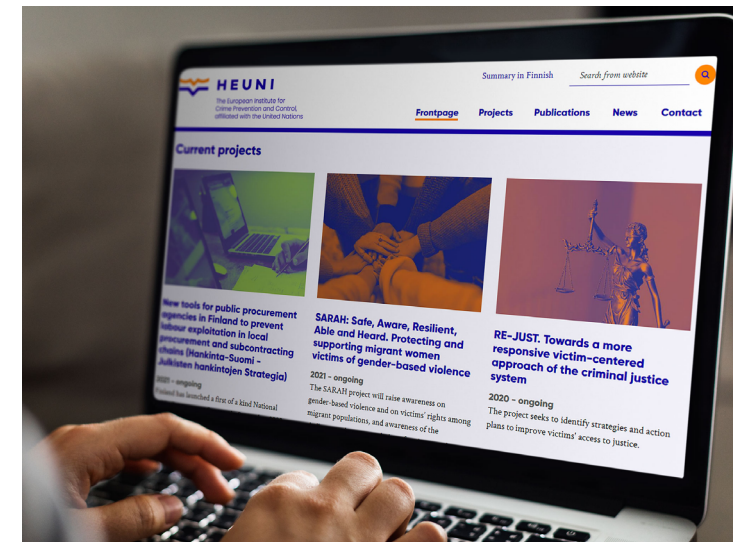
Updating HEUNI logo

The idea behind the new logo was a combination of 2 cornerstones of our work – dedication to ground-breaking research (the upper part of the logo embodies an open book) and bringing this research into action in order to seek justice for the victims of crime (the lower part represents the scales of justice). The bright colours were chosen to highlight one of the values of the HEUNI team – being bold and outstanding. The rebranding was a lengthy process, which would not have been possible without HEUNI staff living up to the other values of HEUNI, i.e. working as a team that thinks big and works in grounded ways, as well as being an open and constructive collaborator to each other and external partners.

The HEUNI team would highly appreciate your feedback, please do not hesitate to contact our communications officer Aleksandra via email aleksandra.anikina@om.fi



New website



Prior to the launch of the new website for HEUNI in December 2020, we worked on developing a more straightforward structure that would be easy to navigate and came up with various formats to showcase our latest projects and publications.

While we've kept our old website archived and accessible via <http://old.heuni.fi/> all the publications and projects' information from 2010 was also transferred to our new webpage.

Internal training

Throughout 2020 HEUNI team developed our skills in many areas of communications and given the new nature of the remote work, enhanced our digital skills. During our joint learning sessions, we've developed skills in facilitating digital workshops, using LinkedIn platform for networking online, designing persuasive presentation slides and using visualisation in presenting research.

Case study

"Unseen victims made visible"

HEUNI has worked on gender-based violence over two decades including developing survey instruments and collecting data through surveys, including the International Violence against Women Survey (IVAWS) and the FRA EU-wide survey on violence against women in 2014.

In 2016 we took a new approach to the topic; we started to research violence against women in the migration context.

THIS ANGLE WAS TOPICAL as an unprecedented number of migrants had crossed the border of the European Union to seek protection. Therefore, HEUNI joined a consortium of 6 NGOs from 6 EU countries, and from 2017 to 2019, we worked together under an EU grant to collect data, to create tools to improve access to services for the victims and lobbied policy-makers to more effectively prevent violence against refugee women.

As an outcome a handbook for practitioners on how to counsel refugee women victims of gender-based violence¹, was edited by HEUNI and translated to 5 languages, and a publication entitled "Unseen Victims – Why refugee women victims of gender-based violence do not receive assistance in the EU"², as well as a policy brief in Finnish, were published. The Unseen Victims publication was presented in the Parliament of Finland, with the Minister for Equality opening the event.

An online material repository was created showcasing the findings of the project. The repository has been visited over 1000 times to date. Over 700 hundred hard copies of the handbook and the publications have been distributed in Finland alone. Over 700 practitioners and decision makers have been informed of the project findings or trained on the topic of violence against refugee women by HEUNI experts, including EU and UN staff, Ministers, officials, police officers, migration officers, assistance providers and academia.

¹ "Handbook on counselling asylum seeking and refugee women victims of gender-based violence" Edited by Inka Lilja. Helsinki, 2020.

² "Unseen Victims – Why Refugee Women Victims of Gender-Based Violence Do Not Receive Assistance in the EU". Inka Lilja, Elina Kervinen, Anni Lietonen, Natalia Ollus, Minna Viuhko, Anniina Jokinen. Helsinki, 2020.

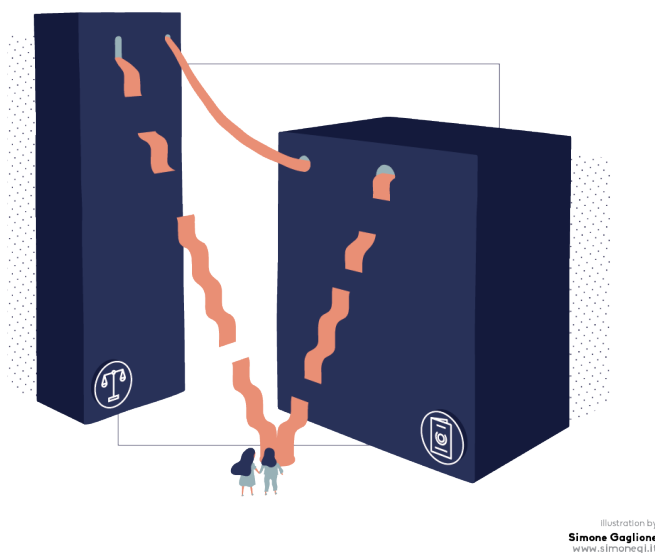
6 media articles, of which 2 in the main Finnish national newspapers, were published, and several articles and blogs have been published in specialized magazines and on different online platforms. One scientific article based on the project data is in a peer-review process.

Additionally based on the findings of the Unseen Victims report a written statement for Finland's national report on concluding observations adopted by the Committee against Torture and an input for the national GREVIO report were submitted. HEUNI was also invited to take part in the development of the National Action Plan on Violence Against Women and to contribute to the Ministry of Interior assessment on the situation of paperless asylum seekers in Finland.

In 2020 funding for 3 follow up projects worth over 600 000 euros (HEUNI's share 80 000 euros) has been fundraised from national and international sources. In 2021 we will continue our work with our partners including in the "SARAH – Safe, Aware, Resilient, Able and Heard" ³ project funded by the European Commission as well as in the "TUVA" project funded nationally.

³ SARAH project page
<https://heuni.fi/-/sarah>

PICTURE 1. The expectations of the asylum system and the criminal justice system do not correspond to the realities of the refugee women. There are two systems aimed at protecting and upholding the human rights for asylum seeking victims of violence; the asylum system, which is aimed at protecting those in danger of persecution or serious harm, and the victims' rights regime, which seeks to ensure protection for victims of crime.



UNSEEN VICTIMS HEUNI Impact case

INPUT 01

2 years of collaboration with **6 NGOs from 6 EU Countries** under an EU grant to collect data, to create tools to improve access to services for the victims and lobbied policy-makers to more effectively prevent violence against refugee women.

OUTPUTS 02

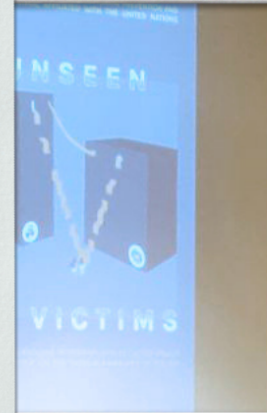
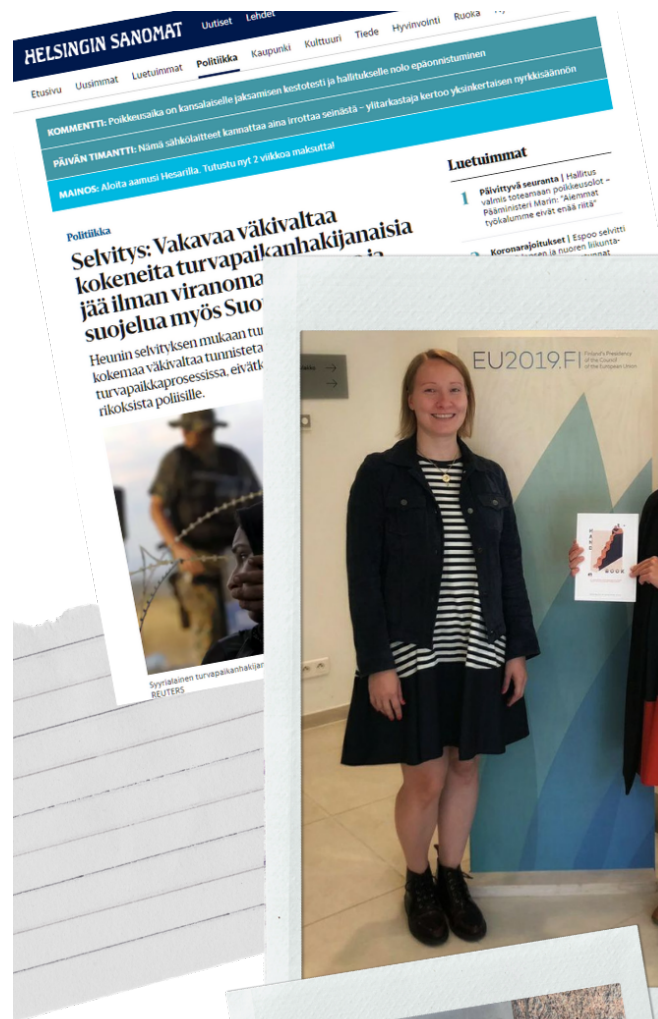
"Handbook on counselling asylum seeking and refugee women victims of gender-based violence" edited by HEUNI and available in 5 languages, report *"Unseen Victims – Why refugee women victims of gender-based violence do not receive assistance in the EU"* accompanied by a policy brief, training and interactive materials.

OUTCOME 03

Over **700** hard copies of the handbook and the publications have been distributed in Finland alone. Over **700 practitioners and decision makers** including EU and UN staff have been informed of the project findings or trained on the topic of violence against refugee women by HEUNI experts. The project results were covered in **6 media articles** and various news outlets.

IMPACT 04

Findings served as a basis for the inputs for Finland's national report on concluding **observations adopted by the Committee against Torture** and the national GREVIO report, the **National Action Plan on Violence Against Women** and the Ministry of Interior's **assessment on the situation of paperless asylum seekers** in Finland. We also secured funding for the follow up projects to be implemented both on the national and international level.
The unseen victims are now made visible.



Publications

In 2020 we have produced 19 written outputs of our work, such as reports, policy briefs, official statements, articles and blog posts.

HEUNI Report Series



95a. Uncovering labour trafficking

Pekka Ylinen, Anniina Jokinen, Anna-Greta Pekkarinen, Natalia Ollus, Katja-Pia Jenu. Helsinki 2020.

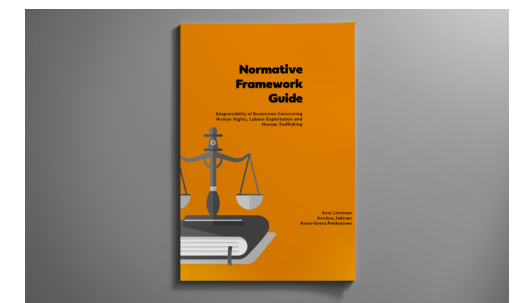
The investigation tool describes labour trafficking and exploitation in general. It also follows the progress of police investigations from start to finish. Moreover, it works as a concrete aid for coordinated and well-planned actions in effective labour trafficking investigations.

Labour inspectors can use the checklist specifically designed for them to assess whether the workers they encounter might be victims of labour exploitation or trafficking. By compiling hands-on techniques,

recommendations and how-to's, the tool is meant for the practical use of different authorities.

In addition to English, the tool is also available in Bulgarian, Estonian, Finnish and Latvian languages and the reports have been tailored to the local context in close cooperation with national authorities.

<https://heuni.fi/-/report-series-no.-95a>



94. Normative Framework Guide - Responsibility of Businesses Concerning Human Rights, Labour Exploitation and Human Trafficking

Anni Lietonen, Anniina Jokinen and Anna-Greta Pekkarinen. Helsinki 2020.

The Normative Framework Guide is a complementary tool developed along with the "Navigating through your supply chain – Toolkit" that summarizes the existing legal frameworks outlining companies' human rights responsibilities with a focus on labour exploitation and trafficking. Together these publications provide a comprehensive information package on labour exploitation and human trafficking.

<https://heuni.fi/-/report-series-94>



93a. Navigating through your supply chain. Toolkit for prevention of labour exploitation and trafficking

Anni Lietonen, Anniina Jokinen and Natalia Ollus. Helsinki 2020

This toolkit provides five hands-on tools which focus on the implementation of due diligence processes and provide concrete measures to navigate and control complex supply chain networks especially in local, national, and intra-European contexts. The toolkit is available in English, Estonian, Finnish, Bulgarian and Latvian.

<https://heuni.fi/-/report-93a>



91. Unseen Victims. Why Refugee Women Victims of Gender-Based Violence Do Not Receive Assistance in the EU

Inka Lilja, Elina Kervinen, Anni Lietonen, Natalia Ollus, Minna Viuhko, Anniina Jokinen. Helsinki 2020.

The report presents the manifestations and consequences of gender-based violence and the challenges in assisting victims of violence in the migration context. With this report we aim to increase the understanding of policymakers on the structural challenges asylum-seeking and refugee women who have experienced gender-based violence face.

<https://heuni.fi/-/report-series-91>



90. Restricted agency, control and exploitation - Understanding the agency of trafficked persons in the 21st-century Finland

Minna Viuhko. Helsinki 2019.

This study takes a look at human trafficking and related exploitation in Finland in the 2000s. <https://heuni.fi/-/report-series-90>

HEUNI Policy briefs



Poliisit eivät pidä lähisuhdeväkivallan kierteen katkaisua osana työtään – koulutusta lisättävä

Anna-Greta Pekkarinen, 2020.

Available only in Finnish.

<https://heuni.fi/-/policy-brief-4-2020>



How to uncover labour trafficking and exploitation? The route to a successful investigation

Anniina Jokinen, 2020.

Also available in Finnish, Estonian, Bulgarian, Latvian, Swedish and Polish.

<https://heuni.fi/-/policy-brief-how-to-uncover-labour-trafficking>

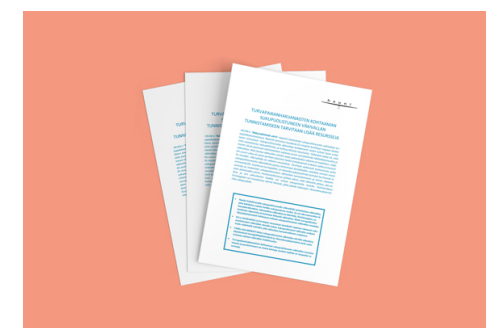


New tools for businesses to improve commitment to end labour exploitation and trafficking in local labour supply chains

Anni Lietonen, 2020.

Also available in Finnish, Estonian, Bulgarian, Latvian, Swedish and Polish.

<https://heuni.fi/-/policy-brief-new-tools-for-businesses>



Unseen victims

Inka Lilja, 2020.

Available only in Finnish.

<https://heuni.fi/-/policy-brief-unseen-victims>

Other publications



Käsikirja sukupuolistunutta väkivaltaa kokeneiden pakolais- ja turvapaikanhakijanaisten ohjaukseen
Edited by Inka Lilja, 2020.

<https://heuni.fi/-/kasikirja-sukupuolistunutta-vakivaltaa>

Also available in English, German, Italian, Greek and Croatian.

<https://heuni.fi/-/handbook-on-counselling>

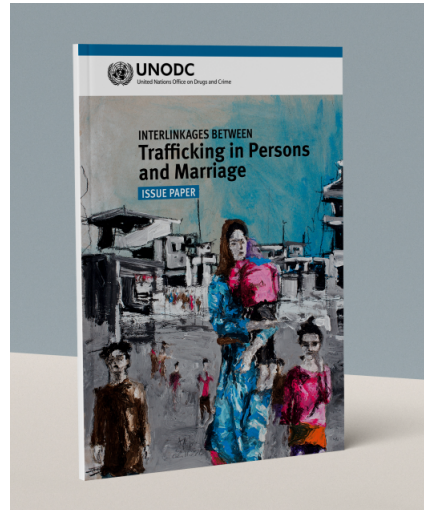


Immeasurable Corruption? Indicators for monitoring corruption in Finland (KORSI) project and its key results

Vesa Mutttilainen, Natalia Ollus, Ari Salminen, Tanja Tamminen & Noora Välimäki. 2020.

Also available in Finnish.

<https://heuni.fi/-/immeasurable-corruption-indicators>



UNODC Issues Paper. Interlinkages between trafficking in persons and marriage. 2020.

Available only in English.

<https://heuni.fi/-/marriage-trafficking>

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YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZW8m6cRXE5D7aGbPXlDag>

