



MEDIA RELEASE

TRACIT Participates in 7th INTERPOL Global Conference on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 11 September 2019 – Today, the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) participated in the 7th INTERPOL Global Conference on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling. This annual conference brings together law enforcement agencies and units working on border security and countering crimes related to human trafficking, migrant smuggling, and crimes against children, with regional and international organizations, private sector and civil society.

“Trafficking in persons is an issue in a wide range of sectors that are vulnerable to illicit trade, including but not limited to fisheries, agriculture, manufacturing and mining,” said TRACIT Director of Programs Ulrika Bonnier. **“TRACIT stands ready to support INTERPOL in their important efforts to combat this crime and to mobilize the private sector to protect corporate supply chains from human rights violations.”**

This year’s conference was co-hosted by the Federal Police of Argentina and the Ministry of Security, with funding by the United Arab Emirates and the INTERPOL Foundation for a Safer World. The conference was the seventh of its kind, bringing together 750 delegates from 97 countries. The conference focused on innovative solutions to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling, with the spotlight on data analysis and financial flows. Of particular interest was the repeated call for improved cooperation and information sharing – both between countries and international organizations, but also between the public and private sector.

“Human trafficking represents a failure of the global community to protect the most vulnerable members of our communities, including those living in poverty and conflict,” said Ms. Bonnier. **“While the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development contains three specific targets to end human trafficking, under SDGs 5, 8 and 16, the true costs of trafficking in persons spans several more of the SDGs. As such, combatting trafficking in persons is key to achieving the 2030 Agenda.”**

A recent report by TRACIT on *Mapping the Impact on the Sustainable Development Goals of Illicit Trade* shows that trafficking in persons represents a direct threat to achievement of 5 of the 17 UN SDGs: SDG 3 (good health and well-being); SDG 5 (gender equality); SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth); SDG 10 (reduced inequalities); and SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). However, the costs of these grave human rights violations extend across several other SDGs, prohibiting the achievement of a just, free and equitable society. The full text of the TRACIT report can be found at:

<https://www.tracit.org/event-dialogue-on-illicit-trade-and-the-sdgs.html>

About TRACIT – The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade ([TRACIT](https://www.tracit.org)) is an independent, private sector initiative to drive change to mitigate the economic and social damages of illicit trade by strengthening government enforcement mechanisms and mobilizing businesses across industry sectors most impacted by illicit trade.

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