

## AUDIENCE

The *Pastoral Orientations* are intended for **Catholic dioceses, parishes and religious congregations, schools and universities**, Catholic and other organizations of **civil society** and any group willing to respond.

They are for planning and evaluating **practical pastoral engagement** as well as advocacy and dialogue.

Key points are also offered for homilies, education and media.

## LONG-TERM GOAL:

to prevent and ultimately dismantle this most evil and sinful enterprise of deception, entrapment, domination and exploitation.



## PASTORAL ORIENTATIONS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

*"Isn't this surely the fast worth choosing:  
releasing those unjustly bound,  
undoing their heavy burdens?  
letting the oppressed go free,  
breaking every yoke?"*

- Isaiah 58

"Human trafficking is an  
atrocious scourge, an  
aberrant plague, an open  
wound on the body of  
contemporary society."

*Francis*



The *Pastoral Orientations  
on Human Trafficking*  
are available at  
[migrants-refugees.va/  
trafficking-slavery](https://migrants-refugees.va/trafficking-slavery)  
in various languages  
and formats.



MIGRANTS  
REFUGEES





# PASTORAL ORIENTATIONS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

offer:

- **a reading.** Why does the depravity of human trafficking persist in the 21st century? How can it remain so hidden?
- **an understanding.** How does the ugly, evil business of human trafficking operate?
- **and action orientations** for the struggle needed everywhere.

What can be done to alleviate and eliminate human trafficking?  
How can it be done better?



## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

is a very complex problem. Its forms are varied and changing, its victims very heterogeneous and so too the perpetrators.

Such complexity requires multidisciplinary approaches to understand the phenomenon and its causes, and to identify the processes and persons involved in it - not only victims and perpetrators but also consumers, whether knowing or unwitting. Only then can appropriate responses be shaped.



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In ten sections, the text analyzes the cruel facts and challenges of **human trafficking**. It then suggests a range of responses.

For “the Catholic Church intends to intervene in every phase of the trafficking of human beings” says Pope Francis; “she wants to protect them from deception and solicitation; she wants to find them and free them when they are transported and reduced to slavery; she wants to assist them once they are freed.”