

ROTARY ACTION GROUP AGAINST SLAVERY

RAGAS NEWSLETTER

<https://ragas.online/>

This Rotary Action Group is not an agency of, or controlled by, Rotary International.

SUCCESS OF THE RAGAS VIRTUAL SUMMIT!

Event recap

What an amazing summit with 495 registered from six continents, 23 countries. A Special thanks to my co-chairs of the event Laura Ellsworth Partner-in-Charge of Global Community Service Initiatives (Jones Day) and Matt Friedman (The Mekong Club/RAGAS Board Member), thank you to the board of directors of RAGAS for your support and commitment to the fight against modern-day slavery.

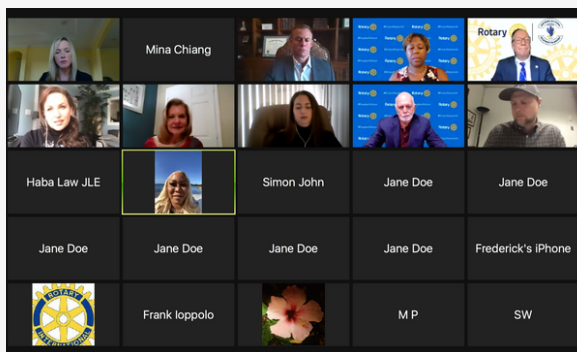
Thank you to the incredible speakers and panellist some of the worlds most renowned experts in the field. Most of all thank you for your passion for ending modern-day Slavery/Human trafficking and participating in the very important summit. I am so honoured and humbled to be a Rotarian and to Chair such an amazing organization as RAGAS.

So much momentum has come out of the summit, new collaboration, new ideas and hope for a better tomorrow.

Dave McCleary
Chair Rotary Action Group Against Slavery

*If you have missed out on the summit, we invite you to watch the recording of the summit (by sessions). They can be found on our [RAGAS YouTube channel](#).



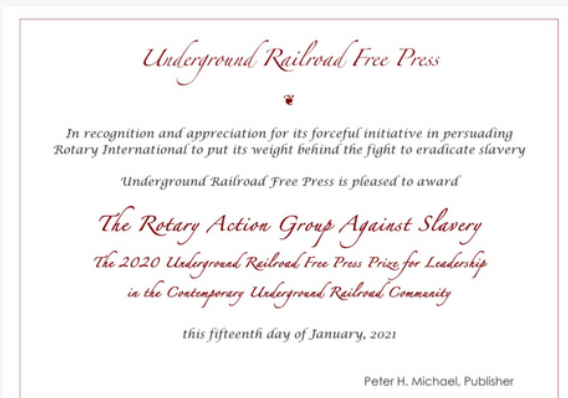


THE FIRST RAGAS SURVIVOR HERO AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COURAGE

Story of hope

The first survivors to come forward and expose Peter Nygard's alleged international sex trafficking ring are being celebrated for their incredible bravery in the face of unimaginable odds, becoming the inaugural recipients of Rotary International's Action Group Against Slavery Hero Award for Outstanding Courage.

The award voted to honour the strength displayed by these survivors, which inspired so many more to come forward. "I just want to say thank you. Thank you for backing me for supporting me." One survivor said in the ceremony held on the 24th of February. [Read more.](#)



2020 UNDERGROUND RAILWAY FREE PRESS PRIZE

Award to us all

Congrats to the RAGAS team and all members! We have won the 2020 Underground Railway Free Press Prize for Leadership in the Contemporary Underground Railroad Community!

"In recognition and appreciation of RAGAS's forceful initiative in persuading Rotary International to put its weight behind the fight to eradicate slavery."



ROTARY'S SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD TO BOB DEERING

Global Grant for ending modern slavery

RAGAS member Bob Deering is recognised for his work with the largest Rotary International Global Grant in the US, focusing on human trafficking prevention education. 55,000 students trained; 1,200 teachers trained; 80% increase on students and teachers' knowledge. [Read more.](#)



Photo source: https://www.instagram.com/p/B8yOyv1BoA_/?utm_source=ig_embed

CNN MY FREEDOM DAY

Forming partnership

RAGAS is partnering with CNN to support CNN My Freedom Day (March 16th). CNN is asking the question 'What does freedom mean to you?' and encouraging students around the world to share their responses on social media using the #MyFreedomDay hashtag. Last year's #MyFreedomDay made more than 750 million impressions on Twitter and saw participation from 135 countries. [Here is a glimpse into what #MyFreedomDay looks like!](#)

EU MOVES CLOSER TO PREVENTING MODERN SLAVERY

Coming event

In the next few months, the European Union will further debate a proposed business and human rights law that would require companies operating in the EU to prevent and address human rights abuses and environmental damage in their global supply chains. This could help tackle forced labour and child labour in supply chains around the world. [Read more.](#)

UNODC NEW REPORT

Key report

The 2020 UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons is the fifth of its kind mandated by the General Assembly through the 2010 United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. It covers 148 countries and provides an overview of patterns and flows of trafficking in persons, based primarily on trafficking cases detected between 2016 and 2019. [Read more.](#)



EDUCATORS ROLE IN PREVENTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

Upcoming event

The Rotary eClub of Community Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT) is holding a Human Trafficking Summit: Educators Role in Preventing Human Trafficking. This will be on Saturday, April 10 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM CDT. There will a keynote speaker, two different panels to discuss how to implement prevention education in schools. [Book the date now!](#)



HT SIGNAL FOR SAFETY

Projects to end modern slavery

The eClub of Florida has dedicated its District Designated Funds (District Grant 6980 1920-20) to training local government employees to recognize the signal of human trafficking and posted signage around the area training people on it. Two clubs, Orlando Dragons and Lake Nona-Orlando, contributed to the grant.

“After all, it is soundless, could be done right in the presence of the captor without her or him seeing the action and would leave no evidence trail to be found.” [Read more about the project.](#)



NEW SOCIAL MEDIA!

RAGAS communication

Last month we introduced our RAGAS new logo, and besides that, we have also updated several of our social media channels! Here is the list of our social media presence. Click the link, follow us and stay connected!

- [RAGAS Facebook](#)
- [RAGAS LinkedIn](#)
- [RAGAS Twitter](#)
- [RAGAS Instagram](#)
- [RAGAS YouTube](#)



Dr Estela Landeror-Dugopurd spoke on 2 Feb 2021 in Rotary eClub of Innovation about the reality of human trafficking in the world today

LET'S TALK ABOUT MODERN SLAVERY

Story of hope

If your Rotary club hasn't invited any speakers to speak about modern slavery and human trafficking, it is time to do so.

More and more clubs have started to work on ending modern slavery, starting by inviting speakers to talk about it. For example, you can [watch Dr Estela Landeror-Dugourd giving a fantastic talk for the Rotary eClub of Innovation on Vimeo!](#)

SHARING, SUBMITTING, GROWING THIS NEWSLETTER TOGETHER

RAGAS communication

You are invited to take part in growing this newsletter together and support the value it represents. You can either share the newsletter with family and friends, or contribute wonderful stories and news to the content. To submit the content for the February edition, use this [submission form](#).

TAKE ACTION

We are not defined by deep down who we are, but by our actions. To contribute to ending modern slavery, you can:

- Share this newsletter.
- Become a RAGAS member from [here](#).
- Donate to RAGAS, or organisations working on ending modern slavery.
- [Contact your local Coordinator](#) to volunteer for RAGAS.
- Invite a RAGAS speaker to your local club meeting talking about modern slavery.
- Initiate a Global Grant project to fight against modern slavery.
- Engage with Rotary clubs that dedicates to ending modern slavery, including District 5950 [Rotary eClub Ending Human Trafficking](#) and District 5710 [Rotary eClub of Community Action Against Human Trafficking](#).

