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**Conference “Exploitative Sham Marriages:
Exploring the Links between Trafficking in Human Beings and Sham Marriages”**

Project HESTIA “Preventing human trafficking and sham marriages: A multidisciplinary solution”

Agreement No: HOME/2013/ISEC/AG/THB/4000005845

Riga, Latvia, 14 – 15 November 2016, Hotel “Avalon Hotel”, 13.janvāra str. 19

AGENDA

The conference aims at raising awareness on the nexus between human trafficking and exploitative sham marriages and at providing a platform to share the findings and expertise gained from the two year project. The conference further endeavors to create a shared understanding of this new aspect of trafficking in human beings and to initiate a comprehensive action for its prevention.

The event’s specific objectives include:

- To enhance knowledge and awareness of trafficking in human beings with a focus on human trafficking for the purposes of sham marriages as a new form of trafficking.
- To acknowledge the sham marriages as a risk factor in human trafficking amongst policy makers and the general public.
- To identify common challenges in preventing human trafficking as well as successful practices to counter trafficking in human beings at the European Union level and to improve international cooperation and international networks.

Conference venue: Hotel “Avalon Hotel”, 13.janvāra str 19

Working languages: simultaneous interpretation English, Latvian languages

Day 1, Monday, 14 November 2016

11.30 – 12.30	Registration and welcome coffee
12.30 – 13.00	Conference opening speeches: Ms Lāsma Stabiņa , HESTIA Project Manager, National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, Ministry of the Interior, Latvia Mr Rihards Kozlovskis , Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia Presentation of the HESTIA video clip followed by comments of Ms Kate Pāvula , Producer of the HESTIA video clip
13.00 – 14.00	Session 1: The HESTIA Project – a transnational multidisciplinary approach to find a solution to prevent trafficking in human beings and sham marriages Moderator: Ms Sirle Blumberg , NGO Living for Tomorrow, Head of Board (Estonia)





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	<p>Happily ever after? From sham marriages to human trafficking Ms Minna Viuhko, HESTIA Project Coordinator in Finland and Project Researcher, Researcher of the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI)</p>
	<p>Training methodology and materials “Reduction of Exploitative Sham Marriages: Training for Trainers Training” Ms Sandra Zalcmāne, HESTIA Project LV Expert in development of training methodology and materials, NGO “Shelter “Safe House”” (LV), Head of Board</p>
14.00 – 15.00	Lunch at the hotel’s restaurant
15.00 – 16.30	<p>Continuation of Session 1: The HESTIA Project – a transnational multidisciplinary approach to find a solution to prevent trafficking in human beings and sham marriages</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Sandra Zalcmāne, NGO “Shelter “Safe House””, Head of Board (Latvia)</p>
	<p>Regulating sham marriage and trafficking: the experience of Ireland Ms Catherine Cosgrave, HESTIA Project Legal Expert/ Research/Training, NGO “Immigrant Council of Ireland”, Legal Service Manager</p>
	<p>Challenges of understanding sham marriages connections with human trafficking Ms Sirle Blumberg, HESTIA Project Coordinator in Estonia, NGO Living for Tomorrow, Head of Board</p>
	<p>The targeting of vulnerability for the purpose of exploitation: the intersection of sham marriage and trafficking Ms Monica O’Connor, Independent Researcher, Ireland</p>
16.30 – 17.30	Coffee, networking and end of the first day of the conference
Day 2, Tuesday, 15 November 2016	
09.00 – 10.40	<p>Session 2: Best practices and challenges of law enforcement agencies investigating and prosecuting criminal proceedings related to trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sham marriages/forced marriages</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Catherine Cosgrave, NGO “Immigrant Council of Ireland”, Legal Service Manager (Ireland)</p>
	<p>The response of An Garda Siochana (Irish Police) to sham marriages Mr Stephen Courage, Detective Superintendent, An Garda Siochana, Ireland</p>
	<p>“Brides-to-be” as victims of human trafficking: Challenges and the importance of coordination between public services Ms Tania Charalambidou, Administrative Officer, Directorate of Migration, Asylum and European Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Republic of Cyprus</p>





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	<p>Sham Marriages as a Form of Trafficking in Human Beings Ms Jeļena Kaminska, Prosecutor, Organized Crime and Other Branches Specialized Prosecutors Office, General Prosecutor's Office, Latvia</p>
	<p>Forced Marriages Ms Adriana Ŗteruská, Investigator of the Police Corps, The National Unit of Combating Illegal Migration of the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Police Force Presidium, the Slovak Republic</p>
10.40 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.50	<p>Session 3: Different approaches to address human trafficking and exploitative sham marriages in the Member States of the European Union: <i>legislation, application of legal provisions and requirements, understanding, awareness raising and information</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms Kristina Misiniene, NGO "Caritas Lithuania", Programme Coordinator</p>
	<p>Human trafficking in Lithuania: from new forms of exploitation to recent political developments Mr Karolis Ŗibas, NGO "Caritas Lithuania", Researcher, HESTIA Project Researcher in Lithuania</p>
	<p>The Portuguese Model in Combating Human Trafficking Mr Manuel Albano, National Rapporteur – Trafficking in Human Beings, Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality, Presidency of the Council of Ministers</p>
12.50 – 14.20	Lunch at the hotel's restaurant
14.20 – 15.50	<p>Concluding panel discussions moderated by Ms Minna Viuhko, HESTIA Project Coordinator in Finland and Project Researcher, Researcher of the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Monica O'Connor, Independent Researcher, Ireland; - Mr Stephen Courage, Detective Superintendent, An Garda Siochana, Ireland; - Ms Tania Charalambidou, Administrative Officer, Directorate of Migration, Asylum and European Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Republic of Cyprus - Mr Manuel Albano, National Rapporteur – Trafficking in Human Beings, Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality, Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Ms Inese Ŗūpule, Author of Latvia's Research of the HESTIA Project, Researcher, Baltic Institute of Social Sciences, Latvia
15.50 – 16.00	Closing of the conference
16.00 – 17.00	Coffee, networking

