

The General Assembly: Topic B Primary Sources

Ending the Practice of Slave Labor

Here are primary sources that your moderator or legal chair thought would be helpful in gaining an understanding of the topic. These are by no means all of the sources available, just sources we wanted to highlight.

Source #1: Articles II, III, and VI of the Slavery Convention (1926)

Also known as the Convention to Suppress the Slave Trade and Slavery, this is one of the first global documents with the intention of advancing the suppression of slavery and the slave trade. With over 99 signatories as of 2013, the Slavery Convention outlines the rules and regulations to eliminate slave trade. Articles II and III of this document illustrates the need for all parties to adopt this convention to their fullest extent. It is also understood that the parties involved can discuss solutions amongst themselves with the sole goal of eliminating slavery. Article VI highlights the need for severe punishments if it is found that slavery and slave trading occurs.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/SlaveryConvention.aspx>

Source #2: Statistics on Forced Labor, Modern Slavery, and Human Trafficking

Collected by the International Labor Organization, the statistics featured are an accurate gauge of slavery in numbers across the globe. The number of forced labor victims, as of 2012, was 21 million individuals. The ILO will release a 2017 estimate during its 72nd session, which will provide a more precise number of victims who face forced labor, human trafficking, and modern slavery.

<http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/statistics/lang--en/index.htm>

Source #3: Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children

This article is a protocol to the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and is one of the three Palermo Protocols added to this convention. With an emphasis on preventing, suppressing, and punishing trafficking throughout the globe, the text of this article is relevant to everyone, especially women and children. The bulk of the article covers the rehabilitation of victims of modern slavery. This includes returning children to their families, legal protection for victims, providing residential areas for victims to stay, and so forth. Also included is the importance of placing appropriate punishment on persons who are found guilty of trafficking, slavery, or forced labor.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ProtocolTraffickingInPersons.aspx>

Source #4: International Labor Standards on Migrant Workers – and Their Listed Instruments

With two supplementary conventions also available through this link, the International Labor Standards on Migrant Workers touches on an important topic when it comes to modern slavery. Poverty and unemployment in many parts of the world is a direct cause of individuals looking for

work elsewhere. With over 232 million migrants around the globe, it is important that they are aware of the rights that they have. These include adequate medical services, social security, as well as cultural and social rights.

<http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/migrant-workers/lang--en/index.htm>

Source #5: UN's Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

The United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons is a robust resolution that focuses on the process of battling modern slavery, as well as identifying the factors that must make up this said process. It is important to this topic due to the urgent need for plans to combat slavery. This plan promotes racial, gender, and situational approaches to human trafficking and modern slavery. Also, it emphasizes greatly on the importance of all countries across the globe to take part in this plan of action.

https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/United_Nations_Global_Plan_of_Action_to_Combat_Trafficking_in_Persons.pdf

Source #6: Domestic Workers Convention, 2011

This convention, set into place in 2013, is a prime example of the guidelines and regulations regarding domestic workers. Rights discussed in this document include hourly limits for workers, housing regulations, clear and written contracts, and an enforced age minimum regarding work. With this convention in place, it is easier for governments to properly identify a situation in which a worker is being taken advantage of or if the worker is a victim of modern slavery.

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:2551460