

# Challenges in collecting information for national referral mechanisms

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Organized Crime Section



## Introduction:

- The Norwegian Coordinating Unit for Victims of Trafficking
- Trafficking in minors in Norway – some facts
- Who are our informants?
- Challenges





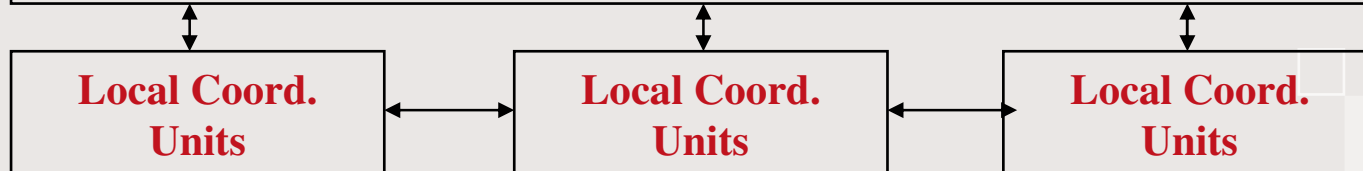
**Government**



**Inter-Ministerial  
Comission**  
6 ministries - Head: Ministry of Justice and the Police

**National Coordinating Unit for VOT**  
Project manager: National Police Directorate

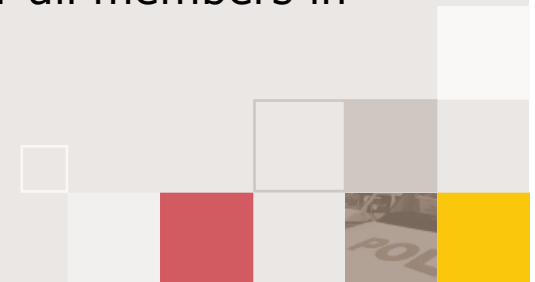
<b>Project-group</b>	<b>Reference-group</b>
Police	NGOs
Prosecutor	Labour unions
Immigration authorities	Employers agencies
Social authorities	Projects
Health authorities	
Labour authorities	
Child welfare authorities	



## National Coordinating Unit for VOT Norway

### How we work:

- Receive phonecalls on our SOS service and refer to different actors
- Receive reports on problematic cases/issues from different local authorities and NGOs
  
- Monthly meetings in Reference group
- Monthly meetings in Project group
- Joint 3 days seminars twice a year
- Contact lists and agreement on 24 hour readiness for all members in both groups
- Report to the inter-ministerial commission
- Report to the local coordinating units



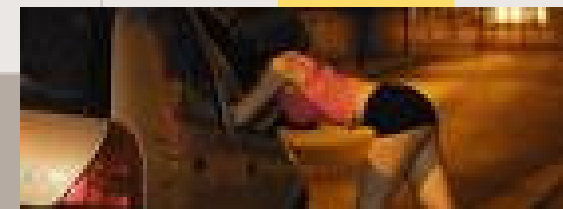
## National Coordinating Unit for VOT Norway

### Tasks:

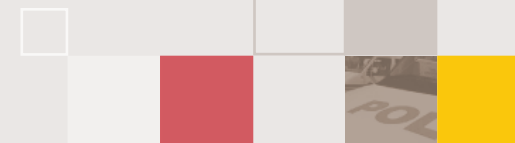
- ❑ SOS Human Trafficking – hotline service
- ❑ National guidelines for identification of VOT
- ❑ National indicators for VOT
- ❑ National guidelines for information on VOT rights
- ❑ National guidelines for interdisciplinary cooperation in assistance and protection of VOT
- ❑ National system for report and monitoring on VOT
- ❑ National system for voluntary safe return of VOT to home country
  
- ❑ Assistance and guidance to local actors when needed
- ❑ Speeches in seminars and training of personnel



# The TIP situation in Norway



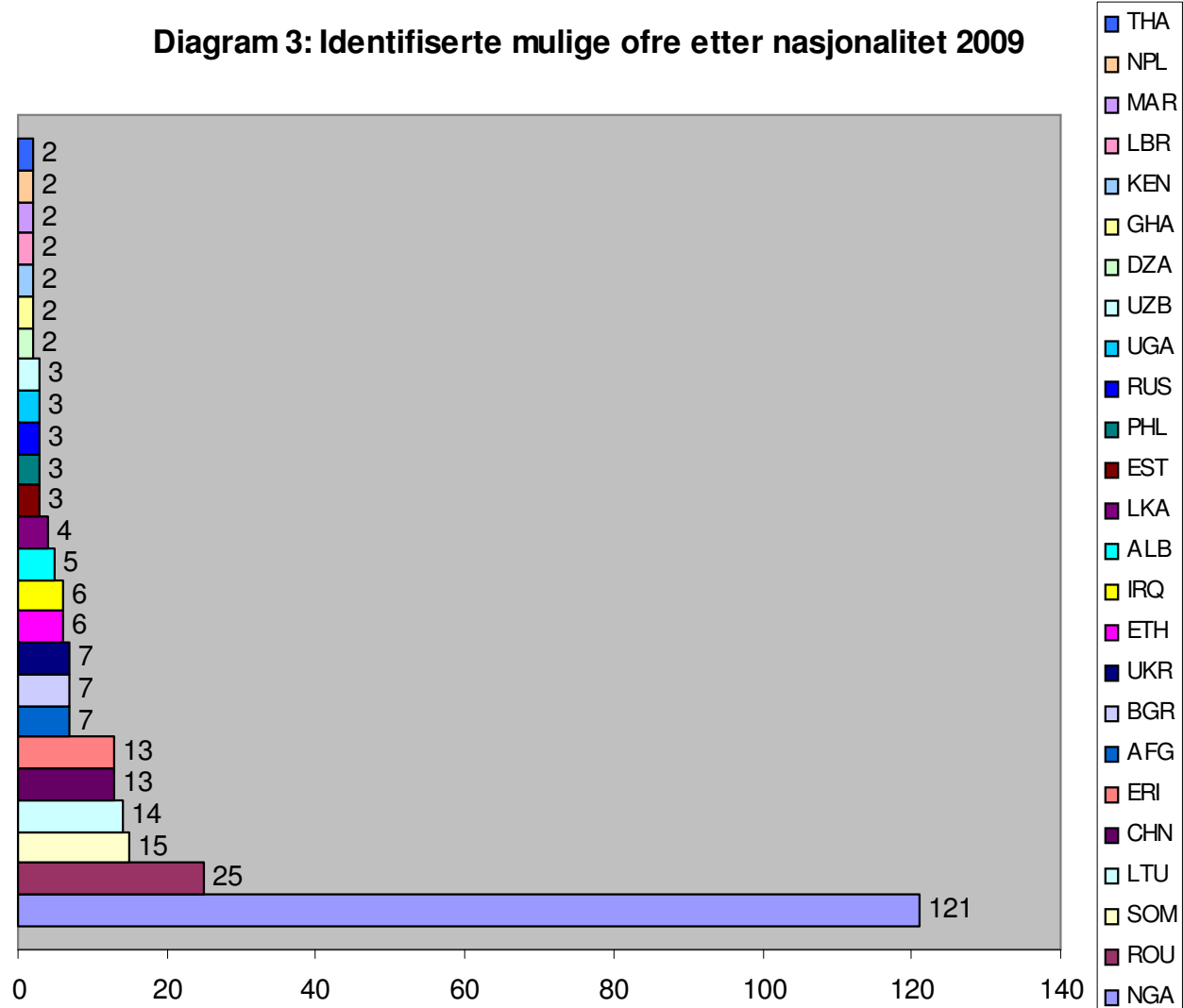
<b>Year</b>	<b>Possible VOTs given assistance and protection in Norway</b>
2007	203
2008	256
2009	292



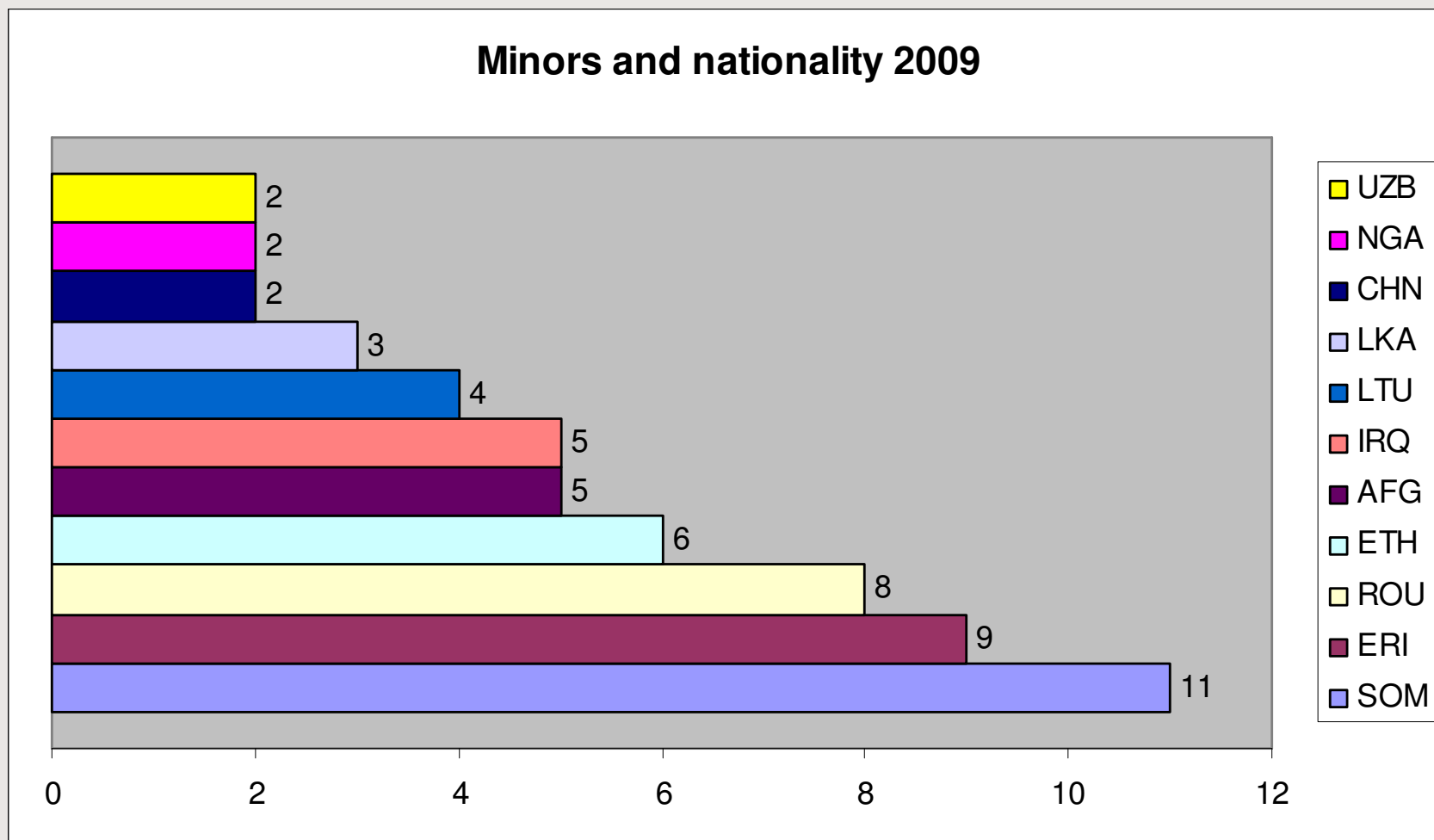
## 292 persons

- 65% women
- 11 % men
- 24% minors
- 68% Sexual exploitation
- 27% forced labour
- 43 nationalities

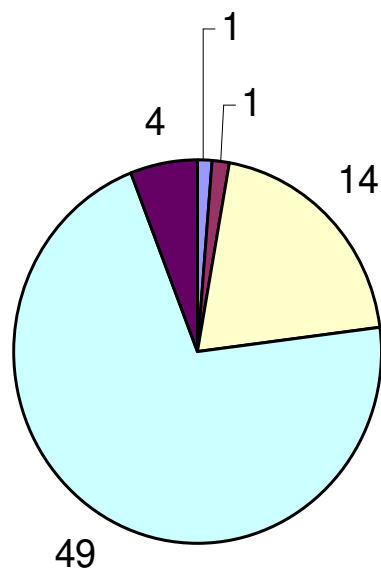
Diagram 3: Identifiserte mulige ofre etter nasjonalitet 2009



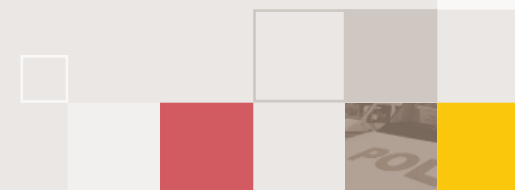
### Minors and nationality 2009



## Minors and suspected type of exploitation 2009



- Warfare
- Organ harvesting
- Sexual exploitation
- Forced labor/services
- Other



## *Criminal cases TIP in Norway 2003-2009*

- 2006: Trondheim tingrett 1 man convicted for sexual exploitation of woman from Albania in Trondheim
- 2006: Høyesterett 2 men convicted for sexual exploitation of girls from Estonia in Trondheim**
- 2008: Høyesterett 1 man convicted for sexual exploitation of boys from Thailand in Thailand**
- 2008: Bergen tingrett 3 men and 1 woman convicted for sexual exploitation of women from Romania in Bergen
- 2008: Gulating lagmannsrett 2 women convicted for sexual exploitation of women from Thailand in Bergen
- 2008: Stavanger tingrett 1 man convicted for labor exploitation of British men in Norway**
- 2009: Gulating lagmannsrett 1 woman convicted for sexual exploitation of a woman from Nigeria in Bergen
- 2009: Borgarting lagmannsrett 1 man convicted for sexual exploitation from women from Brasil in Oslo
- 2009: Bergen tingrett 1 man convicted for sexual exploitation of woman from Nigeria in Bergen
- 2009: Borgarting lagmannsrett 1 man acquitted for sexual exploitation of woman from Bulgaria in Oslo
- 2009: Gulating lagmannsrett 3 men convicted and 1 acquitted for sexual exploitation of a girl from Albania in Bergen**
- 2009: Bergen tingrett 1 man convicted for sexual exploitation of boys in Norway, Romania and Brasil**

## **Arenas where minors are identified as possible VOTs in Norway**

- Shoppingmalls and city centres – begging, artistry, sellers, pick pocketers
- Arenas for production, trafficking and sale of drugs
- Prostitution markets – outdoor, indoor, internet
- Housekeeping and nursing
- Car wash
- Brick-laying
- Asylum reception centres



## Who report about minors in (risk of) trafficking in Norway

- Asylum reception centres
- Local child welfare authorities
- Outreach work in prostitution
- Outreach work in drug environment
- Shelters for VOTs
- Police
- Lawyers
- Customs and immigration control



## Challenges

- Lack of knowledge and competence on how to identify
  - What are the indicators of TIP?
  - How old is the person?
  - Who are his/hers "guardians"?
  - Tendency to focus on TIP as mainly a problem of migration – what about internal trafficking?
  
- Lack of knowledge and competence on where to report
  - A great emphasis on professional secrecy
  - Lack of trust in/knowledge of other actors
  - Lack of networks for cooperation
  - Lack of standard procedures
  - Unprofessional solutions – Laziness
  
- Databases
  - No national register in child welfare authorities
  - No fingerprints of minors under 15
  - Great emphasis on personal secrecy in regulations on databases and reports



## Thanks for Your Attention!

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