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Amsterdam, 5 July 2007

LSI launches documentation centre with searchable database

La Strada International is pleased to announce the launch of a new searchable database holding a wide variety of background documents, legislation and opinion pieces on trafficking in human beings and related human rights issues.

Search engine

The online searchable database is modelled on modern library systems and currently provides access to over 300 downloadable PDF files, to be regularly updated. Via the LSI website, you are able to access an easy-to-use interface to search the LSI library system through a search engine. Search functions include the most common search options such as keyword, author/title but also within the summaries of a document. Further options include searching on an exact phrase, by date or for specific document types.



The search system has been developed with the aim of helping to organise, document and share information on trafficking in human beings, by linking record entries to each other according to relevancy. The type of information provided ranges from manuals for practitioners providing social and legal support to legal texts (international conventions and protocols) and analyses (NGO statements, academic research articles). Furthermore, the database will provide, for the first time, comprehensive access to all La Strada publications. Documents are further classified into the following categories: international and national law, study and research, articles and analyses, guidelines and handbooks, annual reports and multi-media.

Unique research tool

LSI decided to provide [summaries of each record](#) shown to the user with each successful search hit. Summaries enable a quick grasp of the content of the document as well as its background and relevancy to the issue of trafficking.

Another useful feature of the LSI documentation centre is its ['related documents' section](#). Providing related records ensures comprehensive information and a balanced overview: law proposals, for example, are linked to reactions they receive from NGOs. The database thereby provides a unique research tool as it contextualises publications and law proposals by presenting differing views and outlining their reception by civil society.

Documentation Centre	
Document number	1091
Date	20.12.1993
Title	Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women
Author/publisher	United Nations
Availability	View/save PDF version of this document &
Document type(s)	Convention; International Treaty;
Keywords	women's rights; international law; protection; definition
Summary	Article 2: Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following: (b) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution.
Related documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEDAW. The Treaty for the Right of Women. Rights that Benefit the En... • Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against... • DAW Secretary-General's study on violence against women • Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration...
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Up-to-date and selected information

There is a wealth of documentation on the issue of trafficking and related human rights questions. Rather than including information indiscriminately, LSI will make a careful selection of the most relevant documents for researchers, human rights campaigners, policy-makers and anti-trafficking organisations.

The database holds 300 documents so far and another 300 documents will be uploaded in the coming months. Our aim is to keep the documentation centre up-to-date on a monthly basis with press releases, NGO statements, campaigns, current research and new legislation. By the end of 2007, we are hoping to have a comprehensive and complete overview of all relevant documentation. We value any comments or additions you might have and gladly receive notifications of new publications. Mail info@lastradainternational.org for new publication announcements or any other comments.

La Strada research and publications

A new and exciting feature of the LSI database is its collection of all [La Strada publications](#) and research conducted by La Strada and others in La Strada countries. This feature is still under development as all non-English publications are being collected and summarised. It is the first time that the results, methods and insights gained through the La Strada project over the past ten years will be available in a comprehensive and digitally accessible format. Its accessibility online will provide anti-trafficking organisations and policy-makers with a balanced and comprehensive overview of the situation of trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe. We expect the development of the La Strada methods and research database will take until the end of 2008.

Documentation Centre	
Document number	1212
Reference	LSI Library
Date	2005
Title	Recommendations to the government of the Czech Republic on the issue of trafficking in human beings. Perspective of a non-governmental non-profit organization La Strada Czech Republic
Author/publisher	La Strada Česká Republika
Availability	View/save PDF version of this document 
Document type(s)	Research; Study;
Summary	These recommendations were drafted with the objective of offering inspiration and assistance in designing policies aimed at the prevention of trafficking in persons and to help focus attention to protection and implementation of trafficked persons' human rights. The recommendations reflect almost ten years experience of La Strada Czech Republic with work in the area of combating human trafficking, offering this experience for discussion to the general and professional public. The recommendations are divided into six parts. The first part formulates general principles representing the philosophical basis for both the everyday work of the organisation and the concept of the recommendations. The second part focuses on legislation, offering concrete suggestions that, if implemented, would lead to better compliance of the Czech Republic with relevant international documents, as well as more efficient implementation of rights of trafficked persons and prosecution of traffickers. The third part concentrates on prevention and

LSI library in Amsterdam

Next to the online searchable database, LSI is currently setting up a documentation centre on trafficking, with a focus on La Strada publications, in its international office in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Some documents entered in the database are not available online because they either do not exist in digital format or because they are being sold commercially. If this is the case, the [record will specify 'LSI library'](#) in the field 'Availability'. If you are conducting research and cannot find certain documents and publications elsewhere, LSI can arrange for researchers to view and/or lend the publication for a short period of time.

Free of charge

La Strada International is a non-profit network and has decided to make the documentation centre freely accessible so as to promote and facilitate research on the issue of trafficking and its root causes. We hope that easily accessible and balanced information will enable policy-makers to develop an objective and balanced approach to anti-trafficking in support of human rights and specifically the rights of trafficked persons.

In 2007, LSI received funding from Foundation DOEN, ICCO, CORDAID, and indirectly through project partnerships with other organisations, namely from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the European Commission. We greatly appreciate financial support from private donors for our work and particularly the online database. For more information on how you can contribute to La Strada's work see, [please consult our website](#).