Preparation Paper/Abstract:

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)

“Combating Human Trafficking”
About the Committee

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) acts as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The CCPCJ’s mandates and priorities include improving international action to combat national and transnational crime and the efficiency and fairness of criminal justice administration systems. The CCPCJ also offers Member States a forum for exchanging expertise, experience and information in order to develop national and international strategies, and to identify priorities for combating crime.

Combating Human Trafficking

When people mention slavery, they usually discuss it in a historical context, most likely in reference to the American slave trade. Most people would describe slavery as a barbaric practice abolished long ago by civilized minds. While the global slave trade had in large part officially ended by the conclusion of the 19th century, slavery continues today in the form of human trafficking. Human trafficking is a global problem that affects almost every country. Internationally an estimated 800,000 to 900,000 people are trafficked every year. Most of these people come from Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Eastern Europe. One challenging aspect of work to prevent human trafficking is the difficulty of obtaining accurate data. Even those who conducted the earliest studies of human trafficking believed that it would be impossible to accurately quantify the effects of human trafficking. The reasons for this are first, the difficulty of obtaining accurate data in a systematic way and second, the lack of a clear definition of human trafficking that can be used in research. Due to the lack of quantifiable data it is hard to adequately develop an understanding of the nature and scale of human trafficking in the modern era. Delegates should attempt to explore new methods for dealing with this problem. Delegates are encouraged to approach solutions with the best interests of the women and children involved in trafficking in mind. This is especially important because recent actions against human trafficking have unfortunately ignored the important questions facing the international community regarding how trafficking victims can best be cared for after they have been removed from exploitative situations. Additionally, due to the expansive nature of human trafficking, it is vital that the committee explores possible partnerships that will help facilitate the fight against human trafficking and address the many problems associated with human trafficking.