

## MIN. PLEN. GIANLUCA ALBERINI DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS

## 2022 MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ITALY'S STATEMENT AT SESSION II "LEVERAGING THE OSCE MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS"

Jordan, 25 October 2022

Mr Chair,

allow me first of all to thank the speakers for their expertise and precious insight. I would like to share with you a few comments and views based on Italy's experience and international action in combating human trafficking.

In our efforts to fight and eradicate this phenomenon, we cannot dismiss the increasing call for multilateral approaches and international cooperation in tackling a security threat of such a global reach and magnitude. No country is free from human trafficking and no country can fight it alone. We need to formulate more creative and multi-disciplinary approaches, based on international cooperation, to lay the foundation for high-impact work in the field of anti-trafficking.

Internationally, Italy participates in many anti-trafficking initiatives, in the UN, the OSCE, European Union, and other international bodies. In this regard, allow me to recall that Italy was the first State to present a resolution dedicated to trafficking in persons to the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) in 2014.

Cooperation should be built upon the principles of the comprehensive approach to security, which forms the basis of the OSCE. In the domain of the fight against human

trafficking, such approach translates into promoting a holistic agenda, where priority should be given to the protection of the rights of the victims.

Italy has made the fight against human trafficking through a victim-centered approach a pivotal objective of its activities in the OSCE. I take the opportunity to refer to the Decision on "Strengthening the efforts to prevent and combat child trafficking, including of unaccompanied minors" adopted during the OSCE Ministerial Conference in Milan, in the framework of our Chairpersonship of the Organisation in 2018. This issue remains for us, within and outside the OSCE, an absolute priority.

A victim-centred approach is at the core of the simulation-based training developed in 2016 by the Italian Police Excellence Training Centre (CoESPU) of Vicenza (Italy) jointly with the OSCE Secretariat. The fact that OSCE continues to train professionals from various countries based on this cutting-edge methodology represents a rewarding accomplishment and clear testimony to the fruitful and long-lasting cooperation between OSCE and the Italian authorities. A cooperation that has seen the active involvement of representatives from our Mediterranean partners, who have been hosted in Vicenza as beneficiaries of the training modules.

Mr Chair, as we are coping with a transnational crime, it is the responsibility of the international community as such and in its entirety to share resources in countering this threat and staving off the risk of destabilisation that travels with it. Only through international cooperation we can defeat this phenomenon. Thanks to its comprehensive approach to security, I am certain that the OSCE remains a most relevant forum for the promotion and implementation of an effective multi-agency and human-rights-based response to human trafficking.

Thank you