

# Human Trafficking: The Kosovar Perspective of Fighting the Phenomena through Police and Civil Society Cooperation

Samedin Mehmeti

**Abstract**—The rationale behind this study is considering combating and preventing the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings from a multidisciplinary perspective that involves many layers of the society.

Trafficking in human beings is an abhorrent phenomenon highly affecting negatively the victims and their families in both human and material aspect, sometimes causing irreversible damages. The longer term effects of this phenomenon, in countries with a weak economic development and extremely young and dynamic population, such as Kosovo, without proper measures to prevent and control can cause tremendous damages in the society. Given the fact that a complete eradication of this phenomenon is almost impossible, efforts should be concentrated at least on the prevention and controlling aspects. Treating trafficking in human beings based on traditional police tactics, methods and proceedings cannot bring satisfactory results. There is no doubt that a multi-disciplinary approach is an irreplaceable requirement, in other words, a combination of authentic and functional proactive and reactive methods, techniques and tactics. Obviously, police must exercise its role in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, a role sanctioned by the law, however, police role and contribution cannot by any means be considered complete if all segments of the society are not included in these efforts. Naturally, civil society should have an important share in these collaborative and interactive efforts especially in preventive activities such as: awareness on trafficking risks and damages, proactive engagement in drafting appropriate legislation and strategies, law enforcement monitoring and direct or indirect involvement in protective and supporting activities which benefit the victims of trafficking etc.

**Keywords**—Civil society, cooperation, police, trafficking in human beings.

## I. INTRODUCTION

KOSOVO is a country in transition, located in the Western Balkan Peninsula. It is considered small in both geographic area and number of inhabitants. From the fall of the Ottoman Empire, Kosovo was a constitutional part of ex-Yugoslav Federation. As many aspects of life dynamics, legal proceeding and policy were part of general socialist principles [1]. In this perspective should be considered the development and the role of civil society, which was almost invisible and uninfluential in a socialist one-party political system of Yugoslavia, where there was no place for alternative opinions.

The early '90s mark the fall of one party political system and the first signs of emerging of the plural Non-

Governmental Organizations in Kosovo, mostly operative based on limited generosity of various international donors.

However, from 1990 to 1999, Kosovo was ruled under the dictatorial regime of Slobodan Milosevic, who was indicted by the Hague International Tribunal for war crimes in Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia [2]. It is easy to draw a conclusion that the existing civil society in Kosovo during this period had very limited space for action, as well as limited opportunities to influence policy making agenda, to actively be involved in prevention, or monitor trafficking in human beings criminal proceedings. At most the involvement of civil society during this period was limited and concentrated in advocating protection of basic freedoms and human rights.

Trafficking in Human Beings has become an issue of great concern for citizens and authorities, especially in the last 15 years.

A more active role of civil society together with different forms of cooperation with the police and other authorities can be traced only after the installation of International Administration through United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), established in June 1999. This period marked the end of NATO intervention in Kosovo following the massive human rights violations by Serbian authorities, clashes between the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) and the Yugoslav forces and massive deportation of Kosovo Albanians [3].

During the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, due to the extensive violence exercised by the Milosevic's regime, accompanied by severe economic life conditions, many Albanian Ethnic Kosovars were forced to flee country and find refuge abroad especially in the developed world mainly Western Europe and USA.

Right after the installation of the International Administration, Kosovo borders became very porous due to the lack of a well-established border police control and the administration of the borders by mainly military forces. This served as one of the factors that contributed in making Kosovo not only a transit country for trafficking, but also enabled exercising the phenomenon in great scale.

In the past the majority of Kosovar community was neither familiar nor has even heard of trafficking in human beings and the cruel ways of the victims' exploitation [4]. Suddenly, Kosovo faced a very problematic occurrence this phenomenon, almost unknown till date. During period 2000-2003, Kosovo territory is mostly considered as a destination place for the Victims of Trafficking, where women and girls

S. Mehmeti is with the European University Tirana, Tirana, Albania (phone: 0037744509449; e-mail: samedinmehmeti@yahoo.com).

from different countries of Eastern-Europe in different age groups are trafficked from their country of origin to Kosovo in high numbers mainly for sexual exploitation.

## II. RESEARCH CHALLENGES

### A. Objective Limitations

Research on this topic faces some objective limitations, which are difficult to overpass despite the good knowledge of the country, national legislation and professional practice in the field. Some of the obstacles or limitations researching on this topic are related to: firstly the customs and the traditional culture of population, particularly in rural areas. These customs and traditional cultures have the foundations in patriarchal families where special respect and attention is paid to the moral norms such as good image and honor of the family and its members avoiding at any cost happenings that could bring a disgrace. Moral norms and customs, especially in the families with patriarchal tradition dictating that discussions on the topic such as trafficking in human beings are avoided, kept in silence and almost a taboo. No one is willing or takes the courage to talk, even if they have much to say.

### B. Subjective Challenges

Secondly, a large number of victims hesitate to talk about their bitter past, some for the very simple reason to forget the wounds caused by trafficking, some to hide from the community this traumatic event in their lives fearing of being targeted as immoral, others to avoid anyone knowing of their misfortune. There is also another category of victims that fear the terrible consequences of opening up with anyone, avoiding so a possible revenge and/or re-exploitation from their ex trafficker.

## III. KOSOVO-ACTUAL CONTEXT

Human trafficking as a phenomenon of global character is not bypassing Kosovo and as part of organized crime directly or indirectly affects the Kosovar society in many aspects. Although police and civil society, are working relatively well in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, they publicly admit that Kosovo continues to be a good ground for trafficking activities in terms of: transiting the victims from their country of origin to other European countries; recruiting the victims where local women and girls are trafficked within the country or outside; and country of destination, where the victims of trafficking are brought from their country of origin to be exploited in Kosovo. The international institutions that deal with monitoring and reporting the progress achieved in fighting organized crime share almost the same view. "Kosovo needs to provide concrete evidence of results in fighting organized crime, especially on prevention of and fighting against trafficking in human beings, drugs (and their precursors), and weapons trafficking"[5].

Considering Kosovo Police statistics, presented in Table I in 2011 there were registered 28 cases, in 2012 were 34 and in 2013 were 38 cases of Trafficking in Human Beings. This

data's at first sight seem not very alarming. Though, taking into account the fact that Kosovo according to the 2011 census, has a population of 1 739 825 inhabitants in an area of 10,908 km<sup>2</sup>, these figures show that this phenomenon present in Kosovo in very large scale [7].

TABLE I  
TRENDS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS FOR THE PERIOD 2011-2013 ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS OF KOSOVO POLICE [6]

	2011	2012	2013
Trafficking of Human Beings	28	34	38
Enabling Prostitution	11	38	15
Prostitution	17	28	18

Trafficked victims are treated as commodities and goods by traffickers. They are sold and purchased among traffickers and have a price which is fixed and agreed within an "informal market" depending on the demand, supply, situation and individual cases."

To make this situation worse, these "object people" are sold and purchased not only once. Some of them are subject of this "trade" changing "owners" several times.

It is natural in this case, that the victims of trafficking are subject of physical and psychological violence, often providing services for the traffickers depending on their desire.

Another highly alarming issue is the trafficking of and exploitation of children for begging purposes, a phenomenon which has been increased significantly particularly in the recent years. These children come from the most vulnerable segments of the society; orphans, children coming from very poor families and infants often used by adult females [8].

There is really no need for expertise in the field of trafficking, nor having any official or non-official data to recognize the significant increase of the begging activities from children. Enough to only walk through the traffic intersections of the major urban centers of Kosovo and it is easy to see how children alone or gathered in small groups are seating or running after cars and beg for money.

A more focused and keen for detailed eye will notice that somewhere in the corner of the traffic intersection, disguising among the crowd, there is a male adult standing and observing the activities of the children throughout the day. Later in the evening, when the intensity of people in the street diminishes, the male adult gathers the children and collects from them the "earned" money from their begging activity. Each child collects an average of 30 to 50 Euro daily from begging activities. This is confirmed by informally talking to the kiosks', shops and bars' owners near the main intersection in Prishtina, capital of Kosovo, where in most of the cases children exchanges coins for banknotes.

Trafficking in human beings affects primarily children and women without ignoring males although in a very limited number.

#### IV. TRAFFICKING OF HUMAN BEINGS IN KOSOVAR LEGISLATION

Kosovo criminal legislation does not differ much from other international legal mechanisms such as: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, known as the Palermo Protocol in defining trafficking in human beings [9]. This given the fact that human trafficking is a transnational phenomenon. Even larger countries and relatively well-consolidated societies do not have their own and unique specific definitions for such unique phenomenon. This case applies also for Kosovo.

The primary importance of the protocol lies in the fact that it reflects the quest for an international consensus on the definition of trafficking, which is also the first step towards a joint international effort to combat trafficking in persons [10].

Kosovo Criminal Code defines trafficking in persons as "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position or a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation" [11]. It would be worthwhile emphasizing that Kosovar non-governmental organizations have been very active alongside with other groups of interest including international community representatives such as Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, European Mission in Kosovo (EULEX), etc., in drafting the criminal code in general and the part of trafficking in particular as an integral part of this code as well as Kosovo Law on Anti-trafficking. Civil society has been very active in their remarks and suggestions in technical working groups and advocating the issue through public debates, media and social networks.

#### V. MODUS OPERANDI-OCCURRENCE

Based the definition of trafficking, the criminal code recognizes the recruitment as the first element of criminal act of trafficking. What happens in reality with recruited persons?

In most of the cases after recruitment they (potential victims) are transferred or transported from the place where they were recruited, which in most cases is where they live or have family to another place (inside or outside the country) which might be not well known, in some cases even totally unknown for these persons. After transfer and arrival to the destination is not necessarily the place where they will stay for long period of time, but can also be intermediate place where victims of trafficking will be placed temporarily until reaching a certain destination.

The victims some times during the transportation phase or immediately after arrival at the destination begin to understand the trap. Some of them have a passive reaction and others tent to oppose the current situation created, falling in most cases as subject of threats and violence by traffickers to force them to comply with the rules set out by them.

However traffickers use other forms to achieve their

objectives; such as fraud and falsification of documents, in most cases, travel documents and identification documents, but also the employment contracts of the other necessary documents.

In the criminal code the term "use" includes inter alia the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs" [12]. Analyzing the above mentioned term we can conclude that trafficker's goal is profit through exploitation of victims either forcing them to engage in prostitution or being sexually exploited or taking advantage of the work that they perform.

In order to be more clear and obvious, we will try to break down the elements of this offense through an example that randomly happens in practice. The trafficker recruits an adult victim deceiving her that she would be employed in a factory or any other job in a certain place. He ensures the victim will gain material value. In reality the trafficker has taken away the victim to an unknown or less well known location. After reaching the destination the victim is sexually exploited and forced into prostitution. The perpetrator profits material and other benefits from the prostituting the victim.

The main methods of recruitment of trafficked victims in Kosovo include: false marriage proposals, false work and false education opportunities. In some cases the victims are willing to be trafficked forced by economic, family or other personal reasons. Based on the above analysis, an individual can be convicted for trafficking in human beings in Kosovo if the illegal action possesses all the three necessary elements: action, form or means of trafficking, and intended use.

**Action** means what was done starting from the recruitment. Later continues with transporting from one place to another as needed, or depending on the conditions of the destination, in some cases their transfer may be within a certain territory with the purpose of avoiding capture by police.

**Tools are in fact the methods and the forms** how to achieve goal. Tools may vary ranging from threats that were made victims of trafficking, coercion and violence to use in order to fully undergo victims of traffickers needs

The **goal or purpose** of trafficking in Kosovo is mainly for activities such as prostitution, sexual exploitation or forced labor, that trafficker creates for material gain.

According to most of the researchers and practitioners, phenomenon of trafficking in Kosovo is widespread and manifests itself in various ways and forms which are distinguished by their specificity of presentation or content. The best prove is the official annual Kosovo Police report of, which shows that in 2013 were initiated 38 cases suspected for committed the offense of trafficking in persons. This actually marks an increase of 12% compared to 2012 when only 34 cases were registered [13]. These are only the official statistics, which means the number of cases that Kosovo Police registered and investigated. However the real number of cases of human trafficking in Kosovo remains unknown. Based on practice, a large number of criminal cases, not only fail to be part of investigation but they are not even reported to

the police. For example the British Crime Survey estimates unreported crime; in 1997, about 56% of crimes were not reported to the police. In earlier years, this figure was probably higher and accounts for some of the increase [14]. We can easily conclude that the number of cases of human trafficking in Kosovo is greater than what official statistics show.

**Trafficking in women for sexual exploitation:** This form of trafficking is one of the most prevalent forms, which is present in almost every region of the world and this is also the most widespread form of trafficking in Kosovo.

TABLE II  
VICTIMS IDENTIFIED BY AGE GROUP 2010-2011 ACCORDING TO KOSOVO  
POLICE [15]

Year	Age 14-17	Age 18-22	Age 23-25	Age 26-30	Age 31-35	Age 36-40	Age 41-35
2010	16	14	7	1	0	0	1
2011	17	13	7	1	1	0	0

#### VI. MOST FREQUENT FORM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KOSOVO

In most cases this form is expressed especially when women from undeveloped countries or regions or rural areas inside the country, being lured by promises of money and profit employment leave their homes and travel to somewhere they consider to be a better life and perspective. However, trafficking of women for sexual exploitation occurs even within a state, region or even within a city itself this is shown in the police statistics at Table III, where is to be seen that most of the victims of trafficking in human beings during the period of 2010-2011 were Kosovo nationals. And most of them are at the age between 14-17, presented in the Table III as well.

Victims trafficked for sexual exploitation often are transported with forged travel and identification documents, from very well organized networks, which use these documents to transport and install trafficked persons (victims) in destination. Upon arrival in the destination, victims find themselves tricked first, but often threatened, and forced to provide sexual services and prostitution by traffickers who receive large amounts of material benefits. For example, this kind of human trafficking includes forced prostitution of adult women, any kind of child prostitution, trafficking for forced marriage, and many other forms of exploitation of women.

**Human trafficking for forced labor:** Another form of trafficking present in Kosovo is trafficking for forced labor. Forced labor does not mean the only work in which people are forced to work while the use of classical physical violence, but forced labor has to do with the work that victims of trafficking are forced to do in the very long hours, often under extremely difficult working conditions, delivering to their traffickers most if not all the material means or the money that were supposed to earn for themselves. Occupations can be very varied as: gastronomy, industrial production in factories, hardest works in agriculture and construction industries etc.

In case of Kosovo, most often the trafficked women victims are forced to work in coffee-bars or nightclubs, working as cleaners, bartenders, cooks, waitresses, dancers, massagers

etc. In the past these kind of trafficking were not always reported even in developed countries. Fortunately recently to some extent there is an increase in the number of reported cases of trafficking for forced labor. There are also cases when individuals work and are sheltered in the trafficker's property and do not even have proof of the work they have done or still are doing.



Fig. 1 Kosovo Police arrested 06 individuals suspected for human trafficking on 06 November 2014 [16]

TABLE III  
ORIGIN OF THE VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS IDENTIFIED BY  
KOSOVO POLICE 2010-2011 [17]

	2010	2011
Kosovar	28	35
Moldavian	1	0
Albanian	7	1
Serbian	2	3
Poland	1	0

#### VII. THE ACTIVITIES OF CIVIL SOCIETY

Civil society as well as the entire society of Kosovo was facing many challenges in the transition period in each stage of their development. During these development stages there have been changes to the organizational structure as well as in the culture. However, the fundamental purpose of civil society has been and remains in Kosovo as in other countries of the world, to raise the voice for social issues.

Unless existing state institutions themselves the role of civil society would be almost impossible but also unimportant, because civil society is presented in the role of a mediator and actor who is carrying processes on behalf of the citizen for the appraisal work of state institutions.

"When democratic authorities perform well, they warrant their public's support. However, when they err, rulers owe affected citizens apologies, explanations, compensations and possible resignations. When the damage of misguided governance is particularly severe, the public in a democracy may remove the responsible persons from office or even shut down the agency in question. In this way democracy is a continual correction of mistakes." [18] Civil society has the role of advocating, monitoring, preparing and executing prevention programs and awareness raising campaigns for citizens. Therefore, is rightly said that civil society is one of the three very important sectors of society. And is one of the elements that defines society with values of freedom of opinion, where criticism and complaints and grievance raised by

citizens are part of the process of democratization. Perhaps one of the most important pillars is showing the strengths and weaknesses of the processes in the society.

*A. Who or What Are the Main Actors in Kosovo, Who Represents Civil Society?*

By analyzing the view expressed in “Working with the United Nations Human Rights Program, A Handbook for Civil Society”, it is easier to define who is considered civil society in Kosovo. Whereas according to the Handbook, civil society actors are considered all individuals and groups who voluntarily engage in forms of public participation and action around shared interests, purposes or values that are compatible with the goals of the United Nations [19]. Civil society actors in Kosovo presents, a large group of people, who do not have a hierarchy of state levels, including various organizations, press and media, etc., who want and pretend to have a democratic and functional system. There are different types of volunteers, experts of different fields and people who have knowledge on producers, consumer rights, multi-stakeholders etc. They have different agendas as civil protection of the rights and values, associations for the protection and promotion of cultural, historical and art, promoter of transformations, emancipation and reforms in society. One of their main orientations is the feedback and the critique of the work of governmental institutions.

Viewed from this perspective, civil society in Kosovo emerges as a mechanism that serves to assist the functioning of society through the provision of alternatives in the social environment. But also trying to create an ideal projection about the recognition, promotion, and improvement of social norms in an environment with a fragile democracy where pluralism some times in the size of liberalism and sometimes isn't exciting.

The work of civil society in Kosovo often focuses only on monitoring the activities of government; however this should not be the only reality. It is always necessary that oversight should be focused also on powerful corporations, from those of economic nature to important groups, clans and factions of social life in Kosovo, which often have a very large effect and power in the political, economic and other forms of life in Kosovo.

It is worthwhile mentioning that civil society in Kosovo has faced many challenges and problems so far. Civil society has raised its voice against many phenomena which have appeared in this period of transition, especially about crime in general but also trafficking in human beings in particular. Civil society in Kosovo has been very active in advocating and working on topics associated with corruption, nepotism, organized crime, accountability of politicians to citizens, political pressure on the media and many other important issues.

Nevertheless, this important role that civil society has played actively in the Kosovar life has not echoed enough as it is the case of developed countries and those with a consolidated democracy.

## VIII. AGENDA AND PROCESSES LED BY CIVIL SOCIETY

At the conference table organized on 12 November 2013 by the Kosovar Non-Governmental Organization "Forum 2015" with the theme 'Who oversees the overseers', Mr. Luan Shllaku from, Kosovo Foundation for Open Society has estimated that civil society in Kosovo, from the three organizations that existed in the 90's, now there are about 8000 organization dealing with various civil society issues [20]. In fact many of these organizations are not active or their practical activity is very limited. Civil society in Kosovo does not often have a clear profile and direction. Often different groups of civil society deal with issues of different profiles. Only a small number of civil society organizations deal with issues that relate to preventing human trafficking.

Rightfully people expressed their skepticism about the success in the work of civil society, not for the fact that it lacks motivation and desire but mostly in the absence of support especially financial support. “In 2001 everyone rushed to open a local nongovernmental organization, there were so many donors but all our projects were donor dependent...we had to follow what the money [or donor] wanted to support not what our community needed” [21]. Funding for various organizations and groups of civil society mostly comes from international funds, such as foreign governmental agencies as well as various international foundations. This way these organizations and groups of civil society have difficulties to afford the costs associated with their maintenance. Unfortunately in Kosovo still does not exist an environment where citizens and businesses could contribute with donations, and according to the current social and economic climate, it is not likely to happen in short terms.



Fig. 2 Cooperation between civil society and Kosovo Police: Public activity aiming to increase awareness in preventing human trafficking [22]

Considering the professional expertise, in the last 14 years of existence of organizations or groups that deal with the issue of prevention of trafficking in human, it is easy to realize a relatively good experience in terms of creating instruments for planning and executing of the prevention activities. Nevertheless, this gained experience and expertise not always coincide with the development of activities that respond and will properly reflect the needs of citizens.

There is a center for housing victims of trafficking who are at high risk and several other centers of care for victims of

trafficking, where the victims receive treatment in social, educational and health aspect. These centers work in the form of non-governmental organizations mainly depending on donations from foreign governments from developed countries. These centers so far have played a major role in the rehabilitation of victims, their treatment and in most of cases they have achieved to return the rehabilitated victims to the families of origin.

As per Oxford English dictionary prevention is defined as the action of stopping something from happening or arising [23]. Prevention is different from intervention and its treatment, therefore claimed to be the overall goal of different levels of risk that may be related to any problem. The basic objective of preventive activities is to reduce the risk factors and increase protective factors. Every country must be ready and determined to make more efforts to provide more tools in preventing trade with people and prostitution. The opportunities of Kosovo institutions are very limited on that regard, simply for the reason that demands are much greater than the possibilities. This is a problem occurring in every country of the world. The economic crisis that has gripped the world in the last few years minimizes the already small number of resources that were intended to prevent human trafficking [24].

The effects of the economic crisis are present in Kosovo as well and increasing requirements for different matters affects the institutions of Kosovo to have available limited number of resources that can be invested in prevention of trafficking. In the Kosovo case, which has its own specifics, it is precisely the economic crisis that has gripped the developed countries and those of Western Europe that has led to a significant limitation of funds from these countries as major donors to civil society. This has resulted directly in the possibility of decreasing the number of preventive activities. Although in Kosovo there are increasing calls by civil society, media and international community players that Kosovo should strengthen its rule of law performance in order to strengthen its capability and legitimacy [25].

Among many preventive activities that institutions and civil society have undertaken in preventing trafficking during the recent years, will mention only a few with the aim of presenting an image of the current situation:

Activities with the purpose of **educating children** in schools about the dangers that brings the trafficking in human beings. In this perspective a good progress is achieved, with the introduction of the program of the subject "Civic Education", as compulsory subject in schools. The program for this subject which is taught in class IX is designed, taking into consideration the needs of students, in order to gain the knowledge and create age-related skills of children who are at the end of the second cycle of elementary education. Students of this age are teens and are on the verge of their orientation to the profession and their lives in general. They are usually interested in engaging in clubs, associations or various social events, and the program of this course provides them with knowledge about these forms of organizations, functions and effects of these organizations in the community and in society.

One of the objectives of this subject is that children of this age will be able to recognize human trafficking phenomenon and understand the role of each individual and ways of preventing trafficking in human beings in the community where the student lives.

This program promotes and makes students curious and willing to participate, of course conform to their age, in the activities of institutions and organizations that develop projects to prevent human trafficking, prostitution, drug addiction etc. Through the study of this subject the student should develop attitudes and values that oppose various forms of prejudice, including victims of human trafficking [26].

Activities aiming to **raise the awareness** represent a range of actions are held in public, schools, sports clubs, and other various associations. These activities have in focus particularly gender issues, children and women rights and other issues such as preventing, advocating and monitoring issues related to trafficking in human being. One example is the campaign "Invest in sports to prevent trafficking in human beings", organized in November 2007, by representatives of civil society, sport clubs, courts and police. The aim of the campaign was to facilitate the orientation of officials to enable young people to have good sports conditions. The outcome of this activity was, on one hand to motivate the youngsters to involve in sports and on the other hand to help decreasing the possibilities of engaging in negative phenomena such as trafficking, narcotics and so on. In the framework of the campaign two video spots were launched in Albanian and Serbian language against the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings. The campaign targeted in particular girls and boys aged 10-17 years, who may be vulnerable to any form of human trafficking and various forms of slavery [27]. "Open your eyes" was the name of another public campaign organized during the month of September 2013. This campaign was held for the fourth consecutive year. The activity was organized by the Office of the National Coordinator against Trafficking in Human Beings in collaboration with Kosovo police and civil society organizations. The campaign targeted children, young people and women who are victims or potential victims of sexual exploitation, forced labor and begging [28]. These are just two of many examples of collaboration between civil society and Kosovo police often organized during the last years.

**Public debates** as a form of awareness and prevention of human trafficking. In October 2010, exactly at the beginning of the academic year, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Kosovo Police, in collaboration with the University of Pristina organized a debate with students of the University on trafficking in human beings. In this debate participants in the discussion were students, officials, and members of civil society [29]. Another such public debate was organized by Information Center -That European Union office in Kosovo and EULEX (European Union Rule of Law mission in Kosovo), in collaboration with civil society organizations. The debate was held in Mitrovica in February 2014. Interesting part of this debate was the discussion in analyzing the story of the movie "Sisters", which was shown during the debate. The



"Sisters is" a 2011 film directed by Vladimir Paskaljević, based on a true story from Serbia about human trafficking [30]. Debate touched the subject of human trafficking and organized crime, including legal aid resources, education and prevention. About 40 students from different faculties of the University of North Mitrovica participated in this debate [31].

**Media Conferences:** During October 2014 a press conference was held at the European Day against Human Trafficking. The conference was organized by the Kosovar government officials, organizations that protect victims of trafficking and representatives of the European Union [32].

**Television shows:** There is no regular television broadcasts or show on public or private television designated specifically treating the topic of trafficking. What is worth mentioning is the show "Theme" which in the aired of November 2014 addressed the issue of trafficking in human beings in Kosovo [33]. This is only a public television program that addresses various topics. TVs both public and private, follow regularly all activities in the field of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings such as: campaigns, television spots, and conferences for journalists, documentaries, however the number is limited. It remains a necessity for the future to reflect on any regular show/program of weekly or monthly, that specifically addresses the topic of trafficking in human beings.

**Printed and electronic media:** Almost the same situation applies for printed and electronic media. Despite the fact that the printed media as well as electronic convey more attention and dedication to every activity that takes place around the issue of trafficking, there is no newspaper or website which will deal specifically with the issue of trafficking. There are many publications, reports, articles in the papers and websites that relate to the topic of trafficking or activities around this issue. There is an abundance of information on topics related to trafficking in human beings in the websites of different governmental and non-governmental organizations on activities related to trafficking in human beings. However publication of such material is organized in ad-hoc bases.

An interesting activity occurred in October, 2012 - On the occasion of the European Day against Trafficking, representatives of the OSCE Mission (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) have helped presentation of **poems and essays** written by schools students of different communities leaving in Kosovo in the topic of trafficking of human beings [34].

## IX. CONCLUSION

Taking into account the fact that Kosovo is small country; police statistics show that this phenomenon is present in Kosovo in large scale. Trafficking in human beings in Kosovo affects primarily children and women without ignoring males although in a very limited number. There is present an active role of civil society together with different forms of cooperation with the police and other authorities in preventing trafficking in human beings.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Muharremi D. and Mehmeti S, "Handbook on Policing in Central and Eastern Europe," Springer Publishing New York, 2013, pp. 129-142
- [2] [http://www.icty.org/x/cases/slobodan\\_milosevic/cis/en/cis\\_milosevic\\_sl\\_obodan\\_en.pdf](http://www.icty.org/x/cases/slobodan_milosevic/cis/en/cis_milosevic_sl_obodan_en.pdf) 15/11/2014 at 20:00.
- [3] <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/unmik/background.shtml> 15/11/2014 at 20:15
- [4] Center for Protection of Victims and Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings, "Summary of five year Report January 2000 – December 2005" Prishtina, 2005. p. 05 <http://www.pvptcenter.net/sq/Downloads/English%20Report%20Final.pdf>
- [5] European Comision, Bruselas 2013. [http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key\\_documents/2013/package/ks\\_rapport\\_2013.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2013/package/ks_rapport_2013.pdf), 16.09.2014, 21:18
- [6] Kosovo police "Annual Report 2012", Kosovo, Prishtina, 2012 and Kosovo police "Annual Report 2013", Kosovo, Prishtina, 2013.
- [7] <http://ask.rks-gov.net/> 18.11.2014, 19:20.
- [8] Conflict Prevention Forum, "Bagging in Kosovo and its impact on peoples safety", Prishtina, 2014. p.02
- [9] Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and children, known as the Palermo Protocol, adopted by the General Assembly of the UN, with 15 November 2000.
- [10] Hyland K, "The Impact of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children", Washington, 2001.
- [11] Criminal Code of Kosovo, 04/L-082, Kosovo Parliament, Kosovo, Prishtina, 2012. Article 171, Par. 6, Sec 6.1.
- [12] Criminal Code of Kosovo, 04/L-082, Kosovo Parliament, Kosovo, Prishtina, 2012. Article 171, Par. 6, Sec 6.2
- [13] Kosovo Police, "Annual Report, Prishtina, Kosovo, 2013. p.23. [http://www.kosovopolice.com/repository/docs/RAPORTI\\_ANGELISHT\\_2013.pdf](http://www.kosovopolice.com/repository/docs/RAPORTI_ANGELISHT_2013.pdf)
- [14] Hicks J. & Grahame A. "A Century of Change:Trends in UK statistics since 1900", Research Paper 99/111, UK House of Commons, December 1999. <http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons/lib/research/rp99/rp99-111.pdf> 30.11.2014 19:30
- [15] Kosovo police "Annual Report 2011", Kosovo, Prishtina, 2011.
- [16] <http://politiko.net/arrestohen-6-persona-per-trafikim-qenie-njerezore/> 29.11.2014 18:00.
- [17] Kosovo police "Annual Report 2011", Kosovo, Prishtina, 2011.
- [18] Scholte J. 2004, "Government and Opposition" the publication on "Civil Society and Democratically Accountable Global Governance", Published by Blackwell Publishing, 9600 Garsington Road, Oxford OX4 2DQ, UK and 350 Main, Ltd 2004. Street, Malden, MA 02148, USA. p.212 [http://disciplinas.stoa.usp.br/pluginfile.php/161152/mod\\_resource/content/1/Scholte%202004.pdf](http://disciplinas.stoa.usp.br/pluginfile.php/161152/mod_resource/content/1/Scholte%202004.pdf)
- [19] United Nations Office of Human Rights Commissioner, "Working with the United Nations Human Rights Programme A Handbook for Civil Society", New York and Geneva, 2008. [http://www.ohchr.org/en/AboutUs/CivilSociety/Documents/Handbook\\_en.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/en/AboutUs/CivilSociety/Documents/Handbook_en.pdf)
- [20] <http://www.kosovapress.com/sq/nacionale/shoqeria-civile-ne-kosove-nuk-ka-autonomi-5706/> 18.10.2014, 18:10
- [21] <http://www.transconflict.com/approach/think/policy/human-security-through-civil-society-in-post-war-kosovo> 19.10.2014, 11:00
- [22] <https://encryptedtbn1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRQkRQotv7RZIOhJ8TZ9TPSPAp53g8shFnkKO-X-1kM8k7E89Jp2Q> 19.10.2014, 13:00
- [23] <http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/prevention> 21.10.2014, 18:15
- [24] Central Bank of the Republik of Kosovo, "Financial Sector Buletin"Kosovo, Prishtina, 2009, p. 09. [http://www.bqk-kos.org/repository/docs/2010/Bulletin\\_no.8.pdf](http://www.bqk-kos.org/repository/docs/2010/Bulletin_no.8.pdf)
- [25] Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development, "Strengthening Rule of Law in Kosovo: The Fight Against Corruption And Organised Crime", Kosovo, Prishtina, November 2010. p.05. [http://www.kipred.org/advCms/documents/40064\\_RoL\\_fight\\_against\\_corruption.pdf](http://www.kipred.org/advCms/documents/40064_RoL_fight_against_corruption.pdf)
- [26] Program of the school book of class IX, "Civic Education", Kosovo Prishtina, 2012. [http://www.masht-gov.net/advCms/documents/klasa\\_9\\_EDUKATeE\\_QYTETARE.pdf](http://www.masht-gov.net/advCms/documents/klasa_9_EDUKATeE_QYTETARE.pdf) 21.10.2014, 20:25
- [27] <http://www.kosovapress.com/sq/arkiva/fillon-fushata-kunder-trafikimit-me-qenie-njerezore-33532/?old=1> 21.10.2014, 20:50.
- [28] Ministiy of Internal Affairs, Bulletin No 01, Kosovo, Prishtina. October 2013. [http://www.mpb-ks.org/repository/docs/Buletini\\_i\\_MPB.pdf](http://www.mpb-ks.org/repository/docs/Buletini_i_MPB.pdf)

- [29] <http://www.mpb-ks.org/?page=1,46,615> 21.10.2104, 21:30.
- [30] <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1797491/> 22.10.2104, 19:50
- [31] <http://www.eulex-kosovo.eu/al/news/000478.php> 22.10.2104, 17:10
- [32] <http://live.kallxo.com/sq/MTL/Qeniet-Njerezore-Nuk-Duhet-te-Kene-Cmim-2694> 22.10.2104, 18:40
- [33] <http://www.rtklive.com/?id=2&r=11486> 27.11.2014 18:00
- [34] <http://www.osce.org/sq/kosovo/96466> 23.10.2104, 19:30

**S. Mehmeti** was born in 1972 in Pristina. He studied at the Law Faculty-University of Prishtina. In 2009, he finished his postgraduate specialized studies in "Preventing Organized Crime" at the University of Sarajevo, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where he continued and completed master in the field of Criminology researching in the subject "Modern trends in preventing terrorism". Mr. Mehmeti is a PhD candidate at the Law Faculty- European University of Tirana. His main field of study is the legislation in fight/preventing terrorism.

He has a rich career in the field of security. He lectured at the subjects of: 1) Management and organizational behavior in security organizations and 2) Managing public safety at the ISPE College in Prishtina.

For many years, he worked with United Nations Department of Safety and Security in Kosovo and with United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. He has attended different programs related to the field of security such as: "Managing the security in a Democracy" at Cranfield University-Defence Academy of United Kingdom -London, "Program on Terrorism and Security Studies" and "Executive Program in Advanced Security Studies" at Collage of International and Security Studies, at George C. Marshall, European Centre for strategic security studies Garmishpartenkirchen Germany, "Advisor and Analyst Development", Kings Collage – University of London etc. Mr. Mehmeti is member of the board of non-governmental organization "Forum for civil initiatives" that addresses actual security issues and trends. He is also a member of the alumni of "George C. Marshall Centre". A selection of his articles:

"Policing in the Republic of Kosovo: changes along with the political and social developments" by Springer in NY, USA,

"The influence of social pressure on deviant behaviors and various theories about this impact, with a special emphasis in countries in transition", at Institute for scientific research and development. Uncinj, Montenegro.