

# Perspectives on human trafficking:

Geographical perspectives on human  
trafficking, migration, and security

16<sup>th</sup> October 2018

# What is Human Trafficking?



A popular perspective?

# What is Human Trafficking?



Perhaps more reminiscent of the TV show Dark Angel

# Human trafficking is...

...a rapidly growing crime that remains largely **undetected** in most countries. It's a crime that takes on many different forms, and is perpetrated by a broad range of actors.

# Confusion...

There is often a confusion between human smuggling and human trafficking....

# Human Smuggling is defined as...

*the "procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the **illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national** or a permanent resident."*

# Human Trafficking is defined as...

'the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the 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 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.** Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs'

## International migrants



### Refugees

### Victims of trafficking in persons

#### Overlaps:

Victims of trafficking may be international migrants who, in some cases, may have been smuggled or may also be refugees. Refugees fleeing persecution or other dangers in their country are particularly vulnerable to traffickers. Similarly, migrants and refugees who have been smuggled are particularly vulnerable to being exploited because of lack of opportunity in the destination country and the costs associated with smuggling. If other elements of trafficking are present, the exploitation may render them victims of trafficking. Refugee status could be granted to victims of trafficking who may risk persecution in case of return to their home country, if the home country is unwilling or unable to protect them, depending on the individual circumstances.

#### Differences:

Not all trafficking victims are international migrants, refugees or smuggled migrants. Firstly, because they did not avail themselves of the services of smugglers; and/or secondly, because they were trafficked within the borders of their home country. While trafficking in persons is a crime that aims to exploit a person who may or may not be a migrant, smuggling of migrants is always cross-border and does not, by definition, involve the exploitation of the migrant.



### Smuggled migrants



# The nexus between human trafficking and ...

- Migration-trafficking the Nexus: combating trafficking through the protection of migrants' human rights, Anti-Slavery International (Kaye, 2003)
- Trafficking-Migration Nexus, Concepts, Linkages and Frontiers (Chibba, 2013)
- The Climate Change–human Trafficking Nexus, International Organisation for Migration (2016)
- The Immigration-crime Nexus (Mears, 2001)
- The New Criminal Nexus (Shelley, 2005)

# Scale...

Common approaches to explaining the scale of trafficking involve comparison against other illicit trades. For example human trafficking is estimated to be the **3<sup>rd</sup> most lucrative illicit** trade after drugs and counterfeiting globally, surpassing illicit trade in weapons (UNODC, 2011).

	billion US\$	in % of total	Sources
Drugs	320	50%	UNODC, World Drug Report 2005 (data refer to 2003)
Counterfeiting	250	39%	OECD, Magnitude of Counterfeiting and Piracy of Tangible Products, 2009
Human trafficking	31.6	5%	P. Belser (ILO), Forced Labor and Human Trafficking: Estimating the Profits, 2005
Oil	10.8	2%	GFI estimate based on Baker 2005 (quantities) and US Energy Information Administration (prices: 2003-2010)
Wildlife	7.8-10	1.4%	GFI estimate based on Francesco Colombo, "Animal Trafficking – A Cruel Billion-Dollar Business," Inter Press Service, September 6, 2003; Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking, World Wildlife Fund
Timber	7.0	1.1%	GFI estimate for 2009 based on Seneca Creek and Wood Resources International, OECD
Fish	4.2-9.5	1.1%	GFI estimate for 2010, based on Norwegian national advisory group against organized IUU-fishing (FFA) and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
Art and cultural property	3.4-6.3	0.8%	GFI estimate based on Interpol, International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme
Gold	2.3	0.4%	GFI estimate based on estimates from UNODC, 2010 and other sources on illegal gold trade in DRC, South Africa and Peru
Human organs	0.6-1.2	0.1%	GFI estimate based on WHO, Council of Europe, United Nations
Small arms and light weapons	0.3-1.0	0.1%	GFI estimate based on Small Arms Survey and UNODC
Diamonds and coloured gemstones	0.9	0.1%	GFI estimate for 2009 based on UN, Kimberley Process: Rough Diamond Statistics and US Geological Survey
Total (midpoint estimates)	645	100.0%	
<b>Total rounded</b>	<b>650</b>		
in % of global GDP in 2009	1.1%		
<b>in % of average global GDP, 2000-2009</b>	<b>1.5%</b>		

Sources: Global Financial Integrity, *Transnational crime in the Developing World*, February 2011 and World Bank, Indicators (for current GDP).

TOC PROBLEM		ESTIMATED EXTENT	ESTIMATED ANNUAL VALUE (US\$)
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS	TO EUROPE FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION	70,000 victims (annual) 140,000 victims (stock)	3 billion (stock)
	FROM LATIN AMERICA TO NORTH AMERICA	3 million entries (annual)	6.6 billion (income for smugglers)
SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS	FROM AFRICA TO EUROPE	55,000 migrants (annual)	150 million (income for smugglers)
	FROM THE ANDEAN REGION TO NORTH AMERICA	309 tons (depart) 196 tons (at destination)	38 billion (at destination)
COCAINE	FROM THE ANDEAN REGION TO EUROPE	212 tons (depart) 124 tons (at destination)	34 billion (at destination)
	FROM AFGHANISTAN TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION	95 tons (depart) 70 tons (at destination)	13 billion (at destination)
HEROIN	FROM AFGHANISTAN TO EUROPE (EXCL. RUSSIA)	140 tons (depart) 87 tons (at destination)	20 billion (at destination)
	FROM THE UNITED STATES TO MEXICO	20,000 weapons, mostly handguns	20 million
TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS	FROM EASTERN EUROPE TO THE WORLD	At least 40,000 Kalashnikovs in 2007/2008	At least 33 million (in 2007/2008 at destination)
	WILDLIFE FROM AFRICA AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA TO ASIA	Elephant ivory: 75 tons Rhino horn: 800 kg Tiger parts: Perhaps 150 tiger skins and about 1,500 kg of tiger bones	Elephant ivory: 62 million Rhino horn: 8 million Tiger parts: 5 million
TRAFFICKING OF NATURAL RESOURCES	TIMBER FROM SOUTH-EAST ASIA TO THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ASIA	Perhaps 10 million cubic meters	3.5 billion (at destination)
	CONSUMER GOODS FROM ASIA TO EUROPE	Some two billion articles per year	8.2 billion (at destination)
PRODUCT COUNTERFEITING	MEDICINE FROM ASIA TO SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND AFRICA	Billions of dose units	1.6 billion (at destination)
	OFF THE COAST OF SOMALIA	217 attacks in 2009	100 million
MARITIME PIRACY	IDENTITY THEFT	Around 1.5 million victims	1 billion
CYBERCRIME	CHILD PORNOGRAPHY	Perhaps 50,000 new images generated annually	250 million

# On any given day in 2016 ...

Read the Methodology in the Annex of this report from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to get an idea of how much estimation goes into generating these figures. The report is more transparent than most but still has its weaknesses.



## METRICS

40 million people were victims of modern slavery. This includes:

- 25 million people in forced labour
- 15 million people in forced marriage

## PREVELANCE

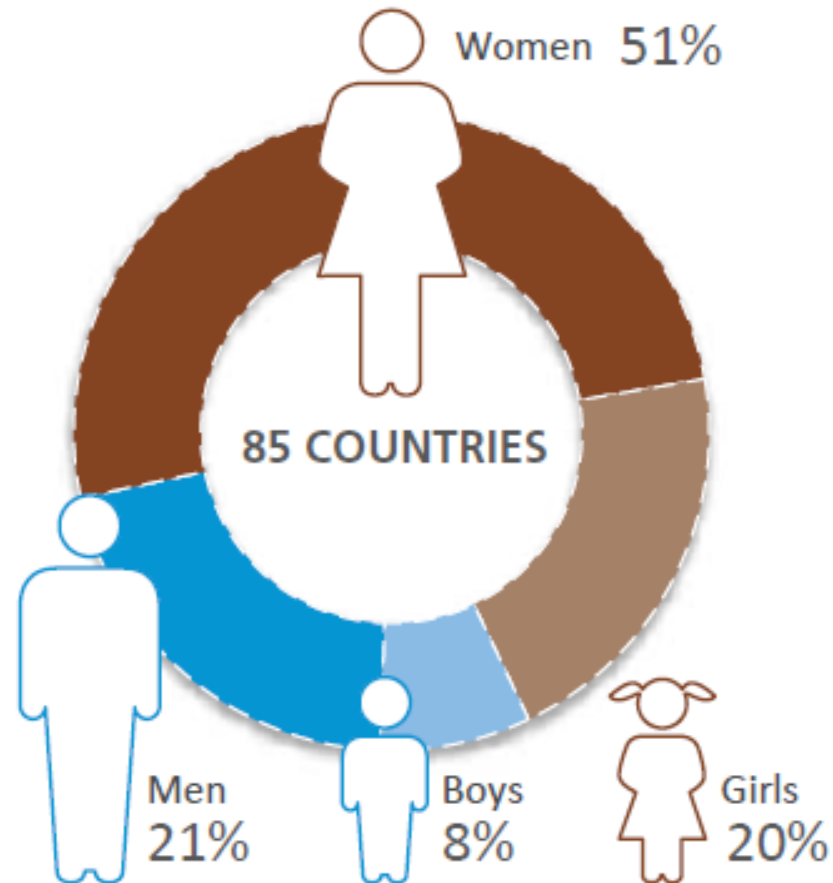
There were 5.4 victims of modern slavery for every thousand people in the world in 2016.

There were 5.9 adult victims of modern slavery for every 1000 adults in the world and 4.4 victims for every 1000 children in the world



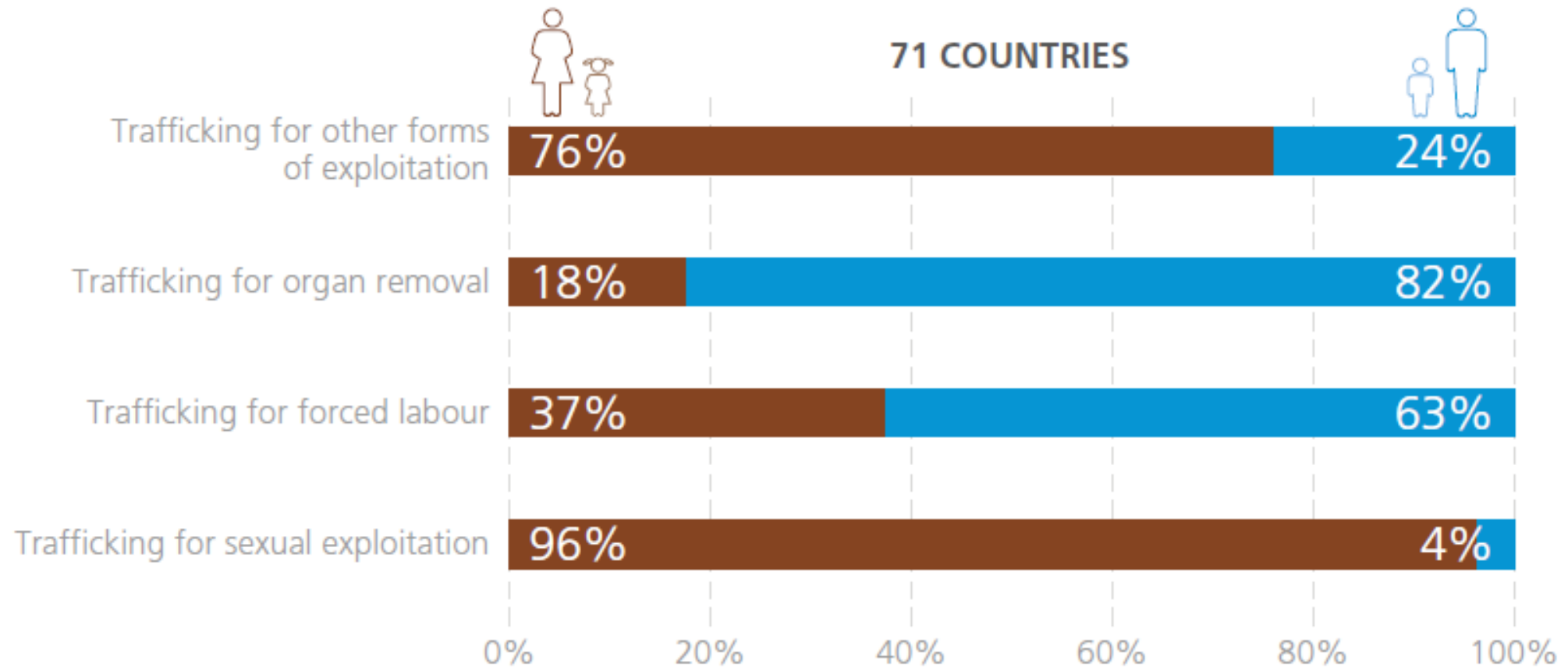
# Gendered estimates...

UNODC estimates of the sex and age breakdown of detected victims of human trafficking worldwide



# Gendered estimates...

UNODC estimates of the sex and age by exploitation type



# Added value...

Another headline when discussing human trafficking is the **resale value**: ‘Unlike other commodities such as drugs or stolen goods, trafficked persons can be used over and over again; they can be rented out, or sold and resold’ (OSCE, 2010:55).

# Exploitation types...

In considering data on human trafficking, it is important to consider the categories different agencies and organisations use when compiling figures, and how they define trafficking. These can include:

- Sexual exploitation
- Labour exploitation
- Domestic servitude
- Organ harvesting
- Forced marriage
- Other forms of exploitation (very broad)



# Estimated scale in the UK ...

The NRM is the UK's National Referral Mechanism for Potential Victims of Human Trafficking.

- Created as a result of the 2009 Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Being,
- Run by the UK's Human Trafficking Centre as part of the National Crime Agency,
- Provides a record of every suspected potential victim of human trafficking (PVoT) reported to the UK authorities.

Recent figures for the UK from April to June 2018 indicate that there were 1658 referrals in the UK. In 2017 there were 4714 (5145) referrals of human trafficking victims (up on 3805 in 2016; 3266 in 2015; on 2340 in 2014; and 1746 in 2013). Albania, the UK, and Vietnam were top origin countries of victims. The most common exploitation types recorded were adult labour exploitation (1326), closely followed by adult sexual exploitation (1185).

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics/2017-nrm-statistics/884-nrm-annual-report-2017/file>

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics/2018-nrm-statistics/947-modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking-national-referral-mechanism-statistics-april-to-june-2018/file>

# Victim countries of origin...

Claimed Nationality	Domestic Servitude	Labour Exploitation	Organ Harvesting	Sexual Exploitation	Unknown Exploitation	Total 2017	Change over 2016	Total 2016
→ United Kingdom	12	393	0	394	21	820		326
Albania	11	223	0	486	57	777		699
Vietnam	40	429	2	107	161	739		519
China	7	131	1	140	14	293		241
Nigeria	86	23	0	133	22	264		243
Romania	11	176	0	63	9	259		202
Sudan	7	199	0	3	28	237		79
Eritrea	26	103	0	21	39	189		109
India	25	90	0	18	7	140		100
Poland	2	83	0	11	6	102		163
Pakistan	38	32	0	20	7	97		70
Ethiopia	23	40	0	7	14	84		41
Afghanistan	13	30	0	13	24	80		83
Iraq	6	30	0	13	22	71		39
Iran	8	19	0	19	18	64		60

● Child victims

● All victims



Top 10 Countries for UK Human Trafficking (NRM) referrals, 2017



# UK exploitation types 2017...

Claimed Exploitation Type	Female	Male	Trans-gender	Total 2017	Change over 2016	Total 2016
Adult - Domestic Servitude	273	96	0	369		325
Adult - Labour Exploitation	180	1146	0	1326		1132
Adult - Organ Harvesting	1	2	0	3		1
Adult - Sexual Exploitation	1115	67	3	1185		945
Adult - Unknown Exploitation	75	69	0	144		123
Minor - Domestic Servitude	70	49	0	119		104
Minor - Labour Exploitation	110	916	0	1026		473
Minor - Sexual Exploitation	497	62	0	559		359
Minor - Unknown Exploitation	133	281	0	414		342
<b>Total</b>	<b>2454</b>	<b>2688</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5145</b>		<b>3804</b>

# Recent victim reporting in Bristol...

UKHTC, NRM Statistics, 2016  
Adult referrals by first responder



Constabulary	Referrals
Avon & Somerset	24
Metropolitan Police Service	111
West Midlands police	63
Thames Valley Police	47
West Yorkshire Police	44

**Zephyr – the Southwest’s Regional Organized Crime Unit support international investigations into human trafficking**

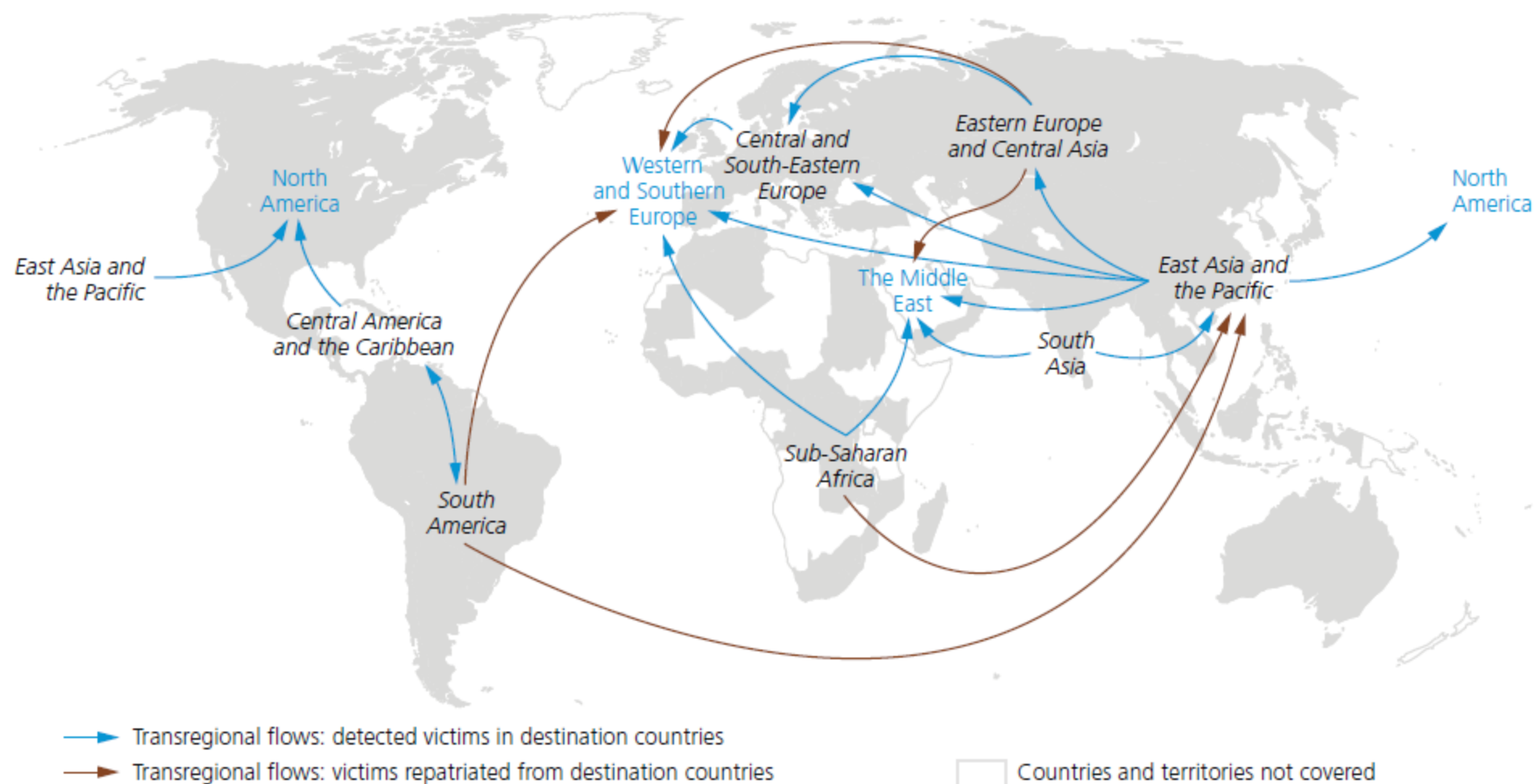
Between April and June this year Avon & Somerset Police referred 12 potential victims of human trafficking, 3 of whom were minors.

The Metropolitan, West Midlands, and West Yorkshire Police all have proactive teams addressing human trafficking (10 of 48 services), where as in Avon & Somerset (Bristol) human trafficking is only responsively dealt with by Bristol VICE, though there is growing attention being given to it through officers involved in the Anti-Slavery Partnership

(<http://www.aspartnership.org.uk/>)

(VICE - activities such as gambling, narcotics, pornography, and illegal sales of alcoholic beverages)

# Global patterns in human trafficking...



UNODC, 2016a: 9

Source: UNODC.

*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.*

# Human trafficking as a transnational organized crime ...

‘Under the UNs Organized Crime Convention, transnational organized crime (TOC) is any serious trans-national offence undertaken by three or more people with the aim of material gain’ (UNODC, 2010:1)

However, as outlined in the Palermo Protocol, victims can also be trafficked within national boundaries. Human trafficking is a crime of both national and transnational scale, committed by individuals and transnational organised criminals.

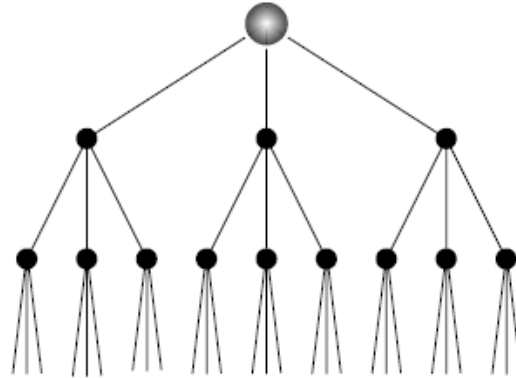


# Organised Crime Groups

- Historically organised criminal hierarchies (Eastern Promises).
- Currently tending towards loose criminal networks (cell structures).
- Historically trade/item/market oriented (eg. Drug runners, weapon traders).
- Now networks that can operate across different trades/items/markets (eg. Drug traffickers that run weapons, smuggling people through the same route. When risks become high they change product type and route).
- Markets increasingly interdependent and global

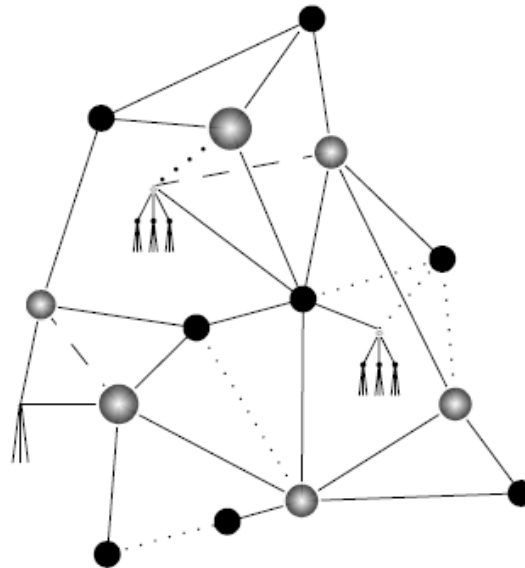
# Organised Crime Groups

Standard Criminal  
Hierarchy

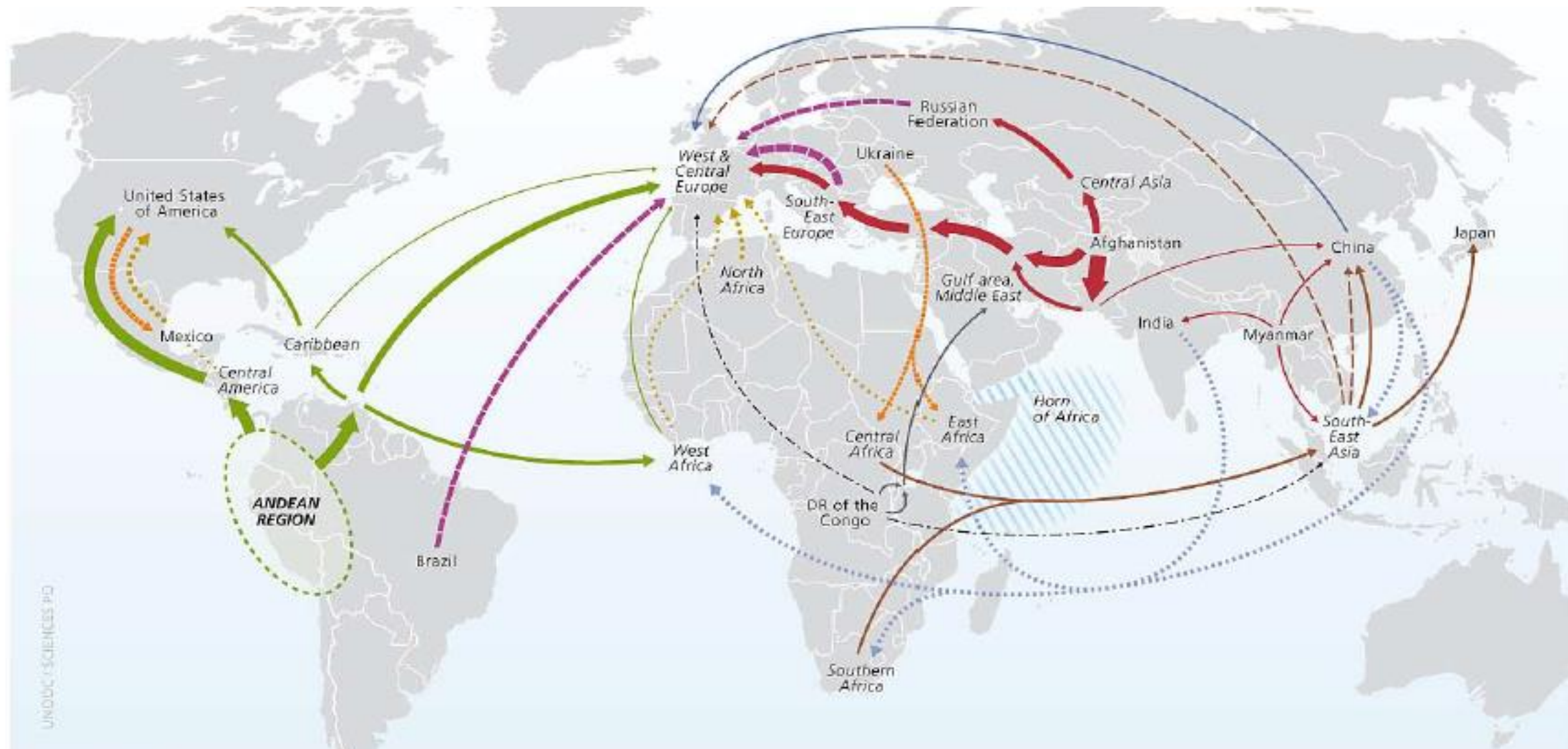


- Single leader
- Clearly defined hierarchy
- Strong systems of internal discipline
- Known by a specific name
- Often strong social or ethnic identity
- Violence essential to activities
- Often have clear influence or control over defined territory

Criminal Network



- Defined by activities of key individuals
- Prominence in network determined by contacts/skills
- Personal loyalties/ties more important than social/ethnic identities
- Network connections endure, coalescing around series of criminal projects
- Low public profile – seldom known by any name
- Network reforms after exit of key individuals



Source: UNODC

→ Heroin  
→ Cocaine  
→ Firearms

→ Smuggling of migrants  
→ Female trafficking victims (main sources)  
→ Counterfeit consumer goods

→ Counterfeit medicines  
→ Piracy off the Horn of Africa  
→ Wildlife

→ Timber  
→ Gold  
→ Cassiterite

# Global Illicit Trade Flows

‘Drugs link South America and Asia to North America and Europe. People are trafficked and smuggled from one end of the earth to the other. Commercial flows in raw materials and manufactured goods are truly globalized, the illicit along with the licit. As a result, what happens in the Andean countries, for example, has an impact on South America, Central America, North America, West Africa and Europe. And what happens in any of these regions has an impact on the Andean region’

(UNODC, 2010: 18).

# Other transnational organized crimes

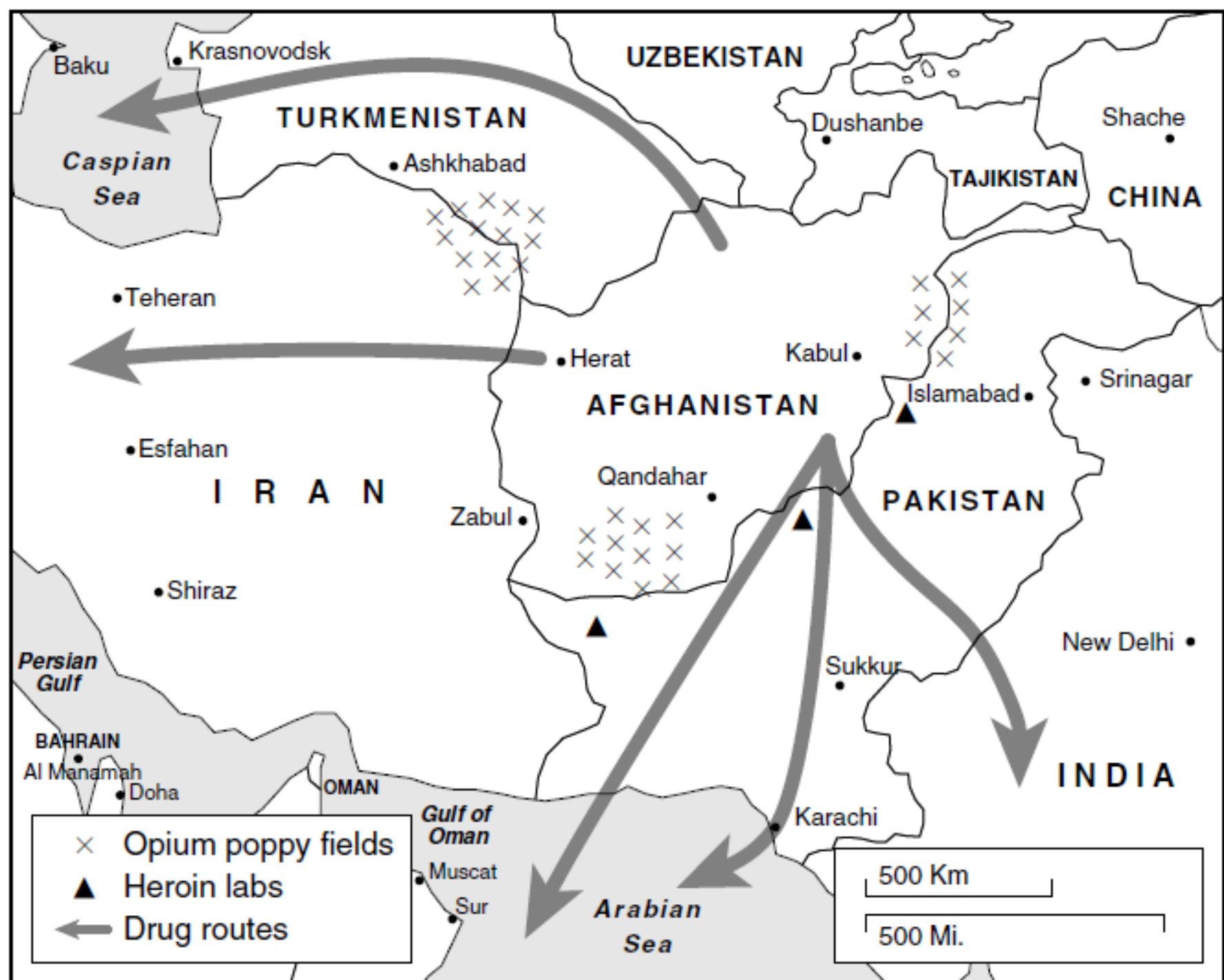
**Cocaine trafficking** – the bulk of the flow proceeds from the Andean region to North America (often via Central America) and Europe (often via West Africa) though an increasing share is directed to the Southern Cone of South America.

**Heroin trafficking** - 90% of the global heroin supply comes from opium poppy cultivated in Afghanistan, and the majority of this is consumed in Europe, the Russian Federation and countries en route to these destinations.

Commonly transported by land (lorry, train, car), by air (including drug mules) and by sea (any maritime mode but particularly well concealed in container ships).

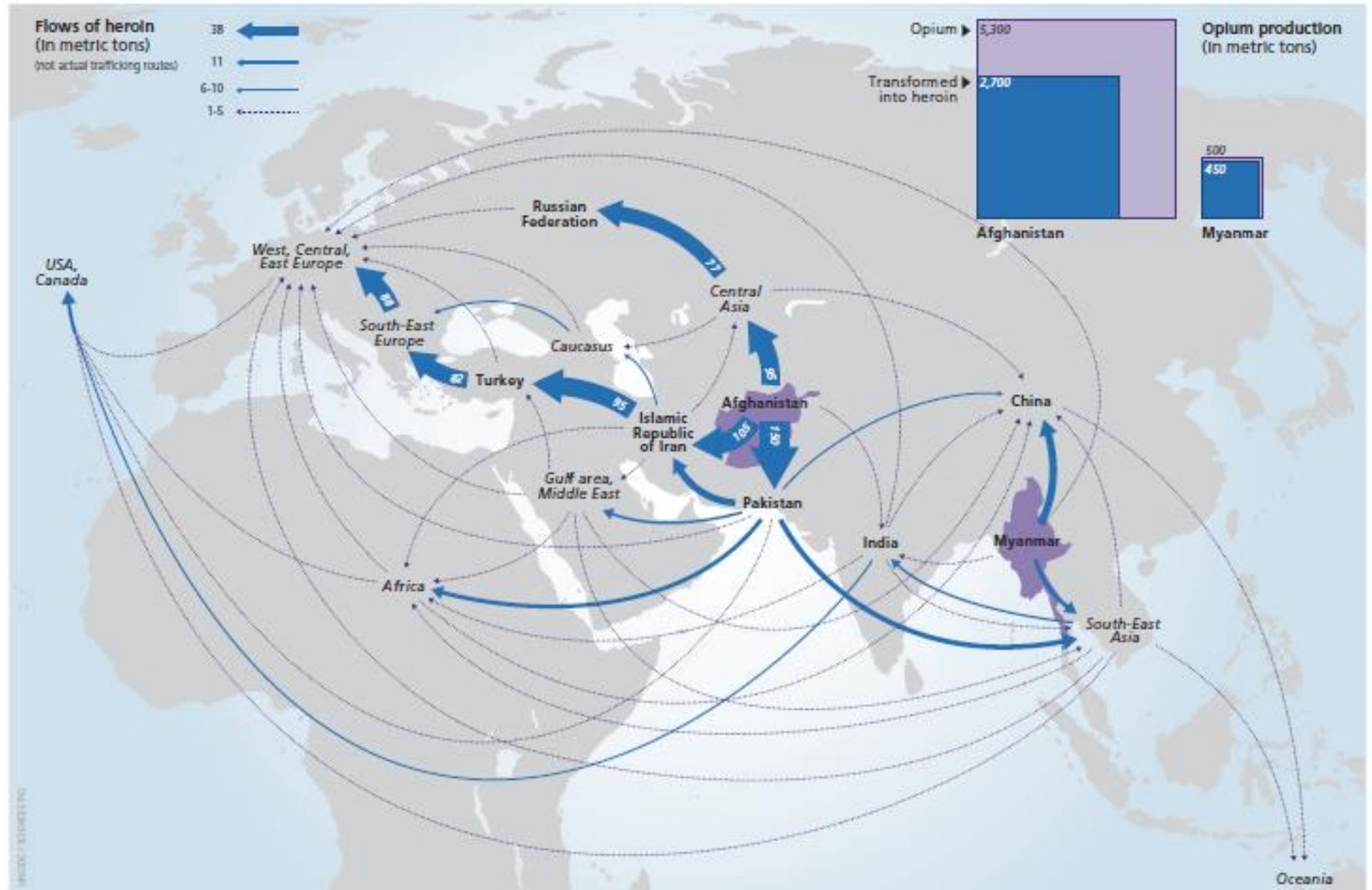
# The Golden Crescent

(EIR News Service, Inc, 1995)





# The Golden Triangle



(UNODC, 2010: 45)

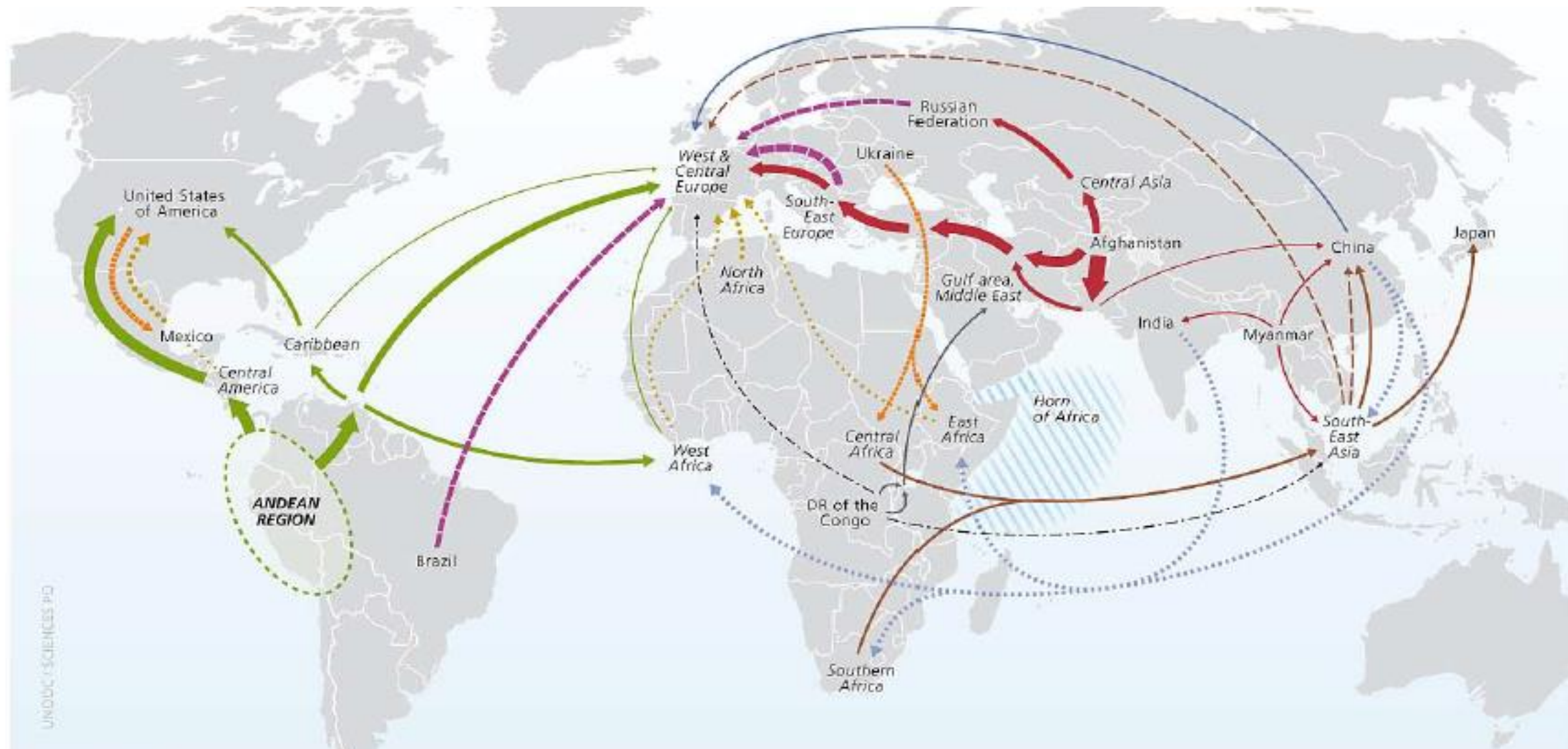
# Other transnational organized crimes

## **Maritime Piracy –**

Different to many other global crimes in that it:

- Is a violent, acquisitive crime that exploits a dense international flow of commercial vessels.
- Usually involves robbery or hijacking,
  - where the target of the attack is a maritime vessel or its cargo;
  - the second is kidnapping for ransom, where the object of the attack is the crew.





Source: UNODC

→ Heroin  
→ Cocaine  
→ Firearms

→ Smuggling of migrants  
→ Female trafficking victims (main sources)  
→ Counterfeit consumer goods

→ Counterfeit medicines  
→ Piracy off the Horn of Africa  
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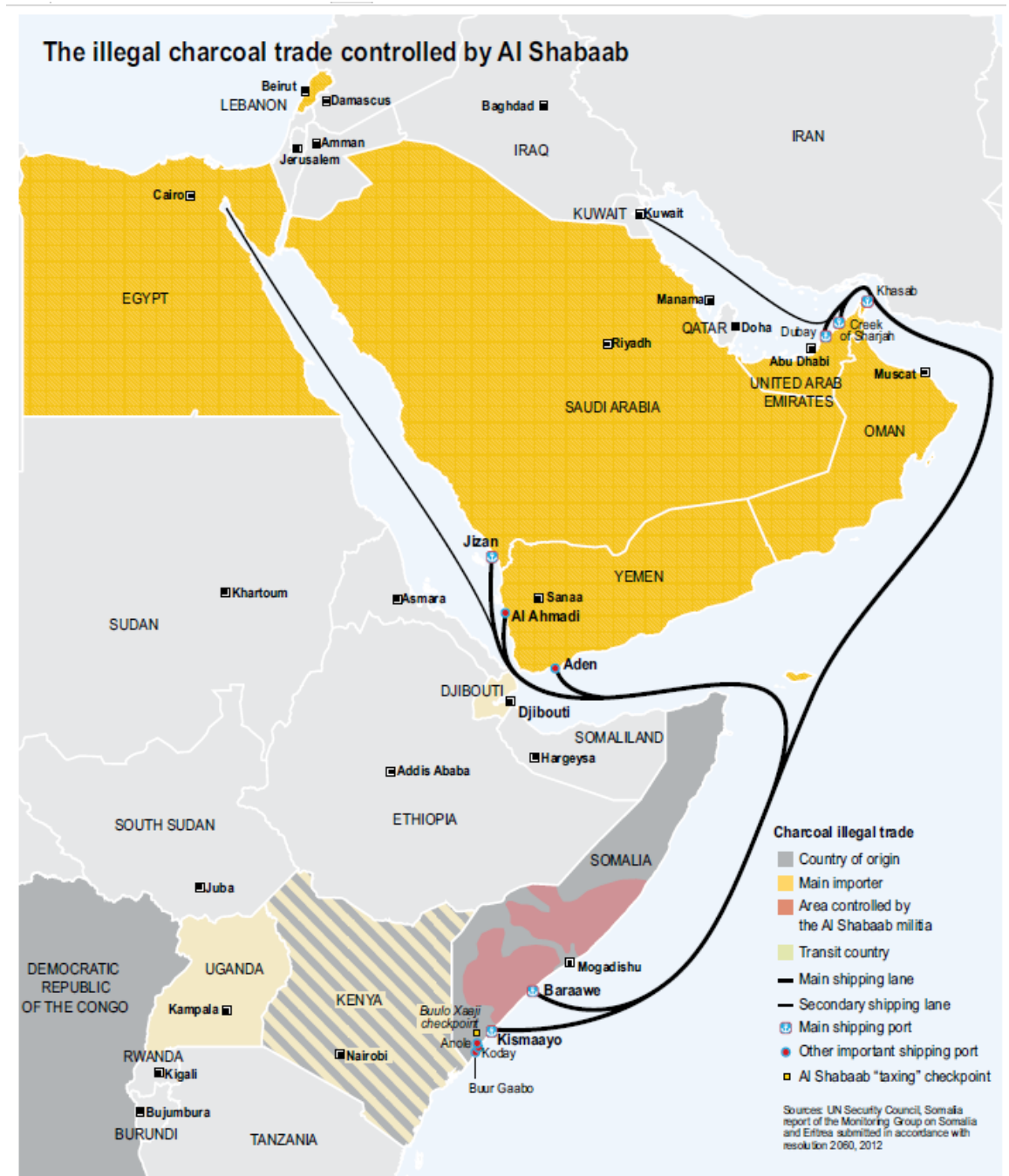
→ Timber  
→ Gold  
→ Cassiterite

# Other transnational organized crimes

## Illegal Charcoal Trade –

Trade in charcoal out of the horn of Africa mainly into Yemen. Believed to be controlled by Al Shabaab, with profits funding extremist activities.

The trade is not limited to the horn of Africa and is occurring in other countries such as the DRC and Myanmar.

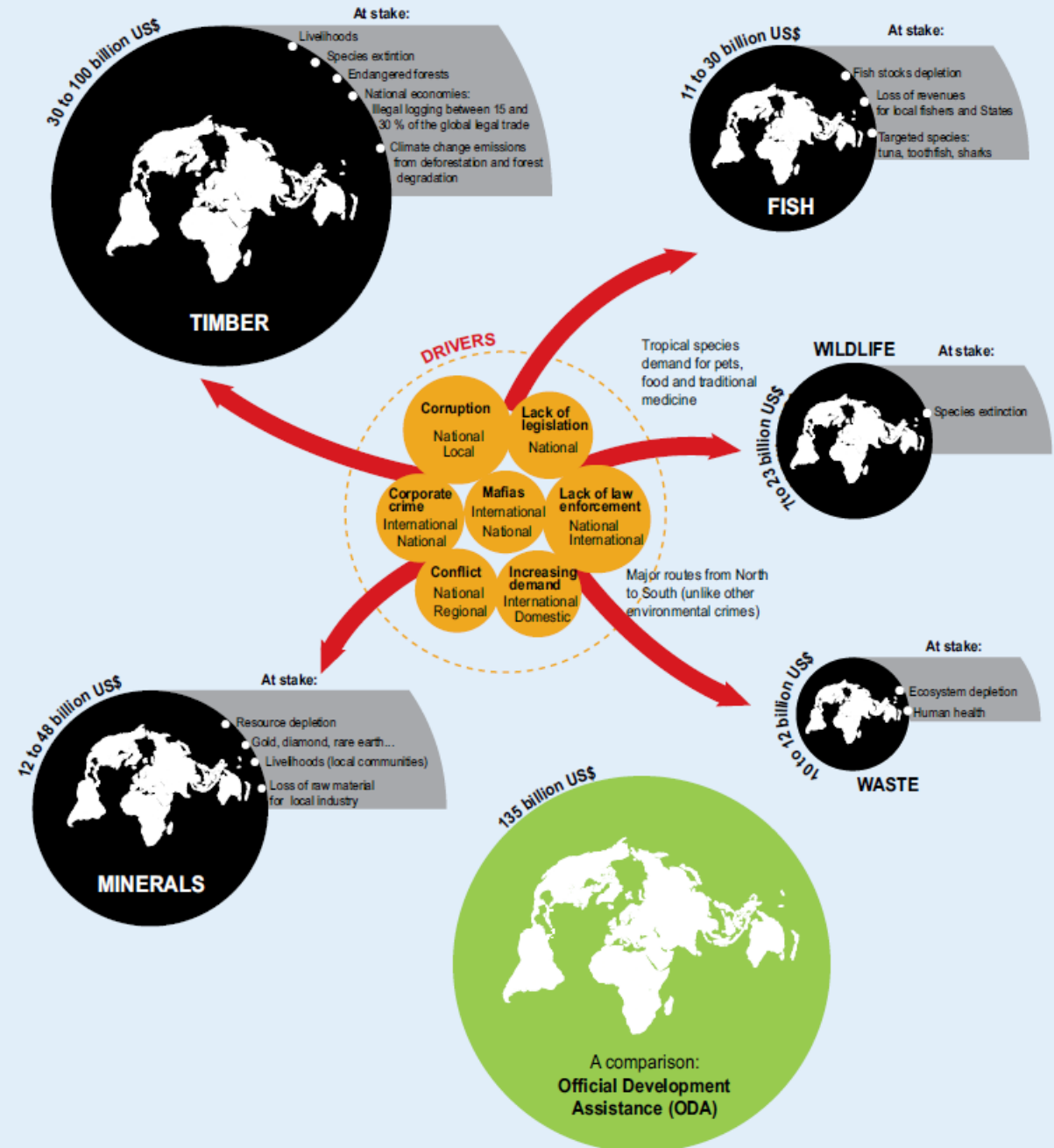


# Other transnational organized crimes

## Environmental Crimes –

These crimes are supplementing the incomes but also depleting resources and reducing legitimate trade. As demonstrated by the green circle, profits from environmental crimes far exceed funding provided through international development agencies.

## Major environmental crimes





**Table 1:** Different forms of environmental crime and their approximate estimated scale. Great uncertainties exist regarding the accuracy of the estimates.<sup>16</sup>

Environmental crime	Annual loss of resources (US\$)	Source or reviews
Illegal logging and trade	30–100 billion	UNEP/INTERPOL 2012 (10–30% of the global trade); OECD 2012
Illegal fisheries	11–30 billion	OECD 2012; MRAG og UBC 2008 (12–32% of the global trade)
Illegal extraction and trade in minerals/mining	12–48 billion	GFI 2011; GA 2012 (Estimated as only 1–4% by industry of the global trade)
Illegal trade and dumping of hazardous waste	10–12 billion	US 2000; GA 2012
Illegal trade and poaching of plants and wildlife	7–23 billion	Wyler and Sheik 2008; GFI 2011; OECD 2012
Sum environmental crime and loss from primarily developing countries	Minus 70–minus 213 billion	
Official development assistance (ODA) (2013 estimate)	Ca. 135 billion	

# Other transnational organized crimes

**Cassiterite** - the best-known tin mineral

- Used extensively as a soft hardening solder to attach components to PCBs in mobile phones

**Sand** – use of approx. 26 billion metric tons per year in construction and roads (est. 47-59 billion metric tons mined annually)

- Now used extensively in fracking and oil extraction
- Sea-dredging for sand alongside river dredging and mining
- Massive environmental impact



*UNEP,  
2014*

*Edwards,  
2015;*

*UNODC,  
2016*

# Other transnational organized crimes

## **Cryptocurrencies for Crime**

Not technically illegal, but over the past few years they have been challenged by law enforcement agencies. They are increasingly being added to the investment portfolios national banks and legitimate businesses.

However at a national level legalities of cryptocurrencies are often challenged.

- January 2016, Take over of Lincolnshire County Council's computers with ransomware – demand for \$500 in Bitcoin
- November 2015 - Greek banks threatened by a group of cybercriminals called the Armada Collective unless they paid 'hundreds of thousands of Euros' in Bitcoin
- November 2015 - hackers attempt to extort £80,000 in Bitcoin from TalkTalk, in return for not publishing hacked customer data

# Other transnational organized crimes

## **The Dark Web - Tor – The Onion Router**

- a free virtual private network to anonymously visit the public internet;
- and enables use of Tor - “hidden service” websites and servers that exist entirely within the greater Tor network.

Data on the Tor network is encrypted in layers (like an onion) and it moves around via a system of relays. Layers of encrypted relays are ‘peeled’ to figure out where to send the data to next, so an individual relay never knows the full path. This makes it difficult (but not impossible) to figure out what a specific individual is accessing.

# Merging Transnational Organised Crimes

## CAAS - Crime-as-a-Service

Criminals provide their services to terrorist and other users – forgery, financial transfers, hacking, trafficking (Europol, 2016).

- **Cryptocurrencies** are difficult though not impossible to track, even when IP addresses are hidden through networks such as **Tor**
- Services are offered through Tor, and paid for in a cryptocurrencies via intermediaries
- Intermediaries ‘jumble’ the blockchain (code) essentially sending different bits of different BitCoins between payee and recipient, further anonymizing the monetary transfer process.

This enables anonymous purchase of products such as drugs, weapons and child pornography, and services such as contract killing and sex trafficking auctions.



# Addressing transnational organized crime

The UNODC has to (for example):

- Consider risk of **radicalisation** in incarceration of maritime pirates
- Consider **alternative development** option when ending coca production
- Consider the implication of **remittance** loss from migration crime

# What facilitates global illicit trade?

There are markets for illicit logs, 'blood' diamonds, drugs, weapons, cars, sand, fish...

Are global crimes demand driven or supply driven?

Have technologies such as the internet facilitated global crime?

Has increased global movement increased global crime? What are the implications of Schengen on global crime? Or Brexit?

# What facilitates the trade in human beings?

Human are traded into prostitution, forced labour, forced drug production, domestic servitude, marriage, organ harvesting...

Is human trafficking demand driven or supply driven?

Have technologies such as the internet facilitated human trafficking?

Has increased global movement increased human trafficking? What are the implications of Schengen on human trafficking? Or Brexit?

Is the trade in human beings different to the trade in other illicit goods?

# Variations in human trafficking...

Researchers have identified a number of variations in the way human traffickers operate. Typically the varying operating methods reflect regional variation.

Characteristics of Shelley’s Trafficking Crime Groups

Business Model and Crime Group	Victims	Modus Operandi	Violence	Human Rights Violations	Profit
Natural Resource Model: Post-Soviet Organized Crime	Women recruited and trafficked for prostitution	Women are recruited in source country and then sold off to intermediaries	Violence occurs	Very significant violations of human rights	Short Term
Trade and Development Model: Chinese and Chinese-Thai Traffickers	Smuggling and trafficking of men for labour exploitation and to a lesser extent trafficking of women for prostitution	Structured business integrated from start to finish	Violence is known to occur when debts have not been paid	Less significant violations of human rights	Maximum, long-term profit
Supermarket Model: Low-Cost and High Volume U.S.-Mexican Trade	Smuggling of both men and women; trafficking of women for forced prostitution	Move large numbers of persons while keeping costs low	Not characteristic of this group; although human rights violations are reported	Significant violations of human rights	Maximizes profit
Violent Entrepreneur Model: Balkan Crime Groups	Women trafficked for prostitution	Serve as middlemen for crime groups from Eastern Europe; control women from base in Balkans through exploitation in brothels in Western Europe	High level of violence used against victims	Very significant violations of human rights; reliance on violence at all stages of operation makes it the most significant violator of human rights	Opportunistic and highly profitable
Traditional Slavery with Modern Technology Model: Trafficking Out Of Nigeria and West Africa	Trafficking of young women and girls for prostitution to destinations in Western Europe; regional trafficking of children for labour exploitation	Use of contracts and voodoo practices to bind victims to traffickers and force compliance	Willing to use physical violence against victims	Significant violations of human rights	Multifaceted crime groups; trade in women and girls generates significant profits

Source: Aronowitz (2009: 75)

# Models identified in the UK...

Business Model and Crime Group	Victims	Modus Operandi	Violence	Human Rights Violations	Profit
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# Models identified in the UK...

**Table 7: Variations in Shelley's Business Models identified in the UK**

Business model	Natural Resource Model: Post-Soviet Organized Crime	Trade and Development Model: Chinese and Chinese-Thai Traffickers	Supermarket Model: Low-Cost and High Volume U.S.-Mexican Trade	Violent Entrepreneur Model: Balkan Crime Groups	Traditional Slavery with Modern Technology Model: Trafficking Out Of Nigeria and West Africa
Variations identified in UK	NRM Facilitation NRM Deception	n/a*	n/a	VEM Kidnap VEM Loverboy VEM Facilitation VEM Deception	n/a

\* no cases following these models were identified in CoA records, however they may be operating in the UK undiscovered, un-appealed if discovered, or processed under other charges



# Models identified in the UK...

The **Natural Resources Model** has focused on short term profit, acting as an intermediary that supplies a resource (women) to pimps who exploit them, without direct involvement in prostitution. Proceed are spent by the offenders, rather than remitted (Aronowitz, 2009:72).

# Models identified in the UK...

- **NRM *Facilitation*** in which traffickers offered women a chance to work as prostitutes in the UK, *facilitating* their travel arrangement and advising on methods to gain entry to the country. Once here, these women were exploited in the sex industry being sold to pimps who kept all of their earnings and used threats and violence to control them.
- The **NRM *deception*** variation used *deceptive* promises of legitimate work abroad to recruit women, and arranged and paid for their travel to the UK. Upon arrival these women were repeatedly sold on to different pimps who used rape and extreme violence to control them while exploiting them as prostitutes.

# Models identified in the UK...

The **Violent Entrepreneur Model** is characterized by extreme violence to control women, and often control of the entire trafficking process from recruitment to exploitation. Earnings are usually high, partially remitted, and partially re-invested in the criminal business in the destination country (Ibid:74).

# Models identified in the UK...

- The **VEM *kidnap*** track involves kidnapping women by force (from the streets or home), and using **extreme violence** to control them. A period of '**breaking-in**' is usually present, and women are sold to similar ethnic groups as the abductors, or exploited by the group itself. They rely on a **high level of corruption** and women who escape their captors usually have to flee the country to avoid **re-trafficking**
- The **VEM *facilitation*** track uses **deceptive adverts**, classifieds searches, and familial contacts to **recruit women willing to work in the sex industry**. Travel is arranged and paid for, but once in the UK women are kept under relatively strict control and encouraged to offer services they were originally unwilling to provide. Traffickers control not only the recruitment and transportation stages, but also exploitation in brothels and the escort industry. Although women receive a share of their earnings and are technically able to leave, this is often limited by language barriers, removal of passports, and pressure to recruit relatives.

# Models identified in the UK...

- **VEM *Loverboy*** - The '*loverboy*' track relies on the **grooming of women abroad as 'girlfriends'** (and in some instances wives) and encouraging them to travel to the UK. Once in the UK the 'boyfriend' or 'recruiter' leaves the woman with a 'friend' who is another member of the trafficking group who exploits them as prostitutes. Typically **travel is paid for and facilitated through legal routes**, but some variations use illegal routes once the facade of the loverboy-relationship has been lost (usually through exploitation in the sex industry before travelling to the UK).
- The **VEM *deception*** track uses **deceptive promises of legitimate work abroad** to recruit victims, and facilitates their entry to the UK through a number of PoEs. If entry is unsuccessful women are advised on alternative entry routes, and met by traffickers. Once in the UK they are exploited by the traffickers, told they must **repay their travel debts in prostitution**, which they are coerced into by **threats**, violence, and threats to relatives. They are exploited **in residential brothels and the escort industry** by traffickers, and only occasionally sold to other pimps. Escape is opportunistic, with many women escaping prostitution by marrying their exploiter and joining the criminal group.

# What creates the vulnerabilities exploited by human traffickers...

- economic circumstances
- lack of viable (or perceived viable) livelihood opportunities
- social and cultural differences
- family circumstances
- regional wars, conflicts, or humanitarian disasters
- substance dependence
- awareness
- gender equality
- desire for a better life

# What creates the vulnerabilities exploited by human traffickers...

Traffickers benefit the structural and socio-cultural factors that **‘push’** people to want to migrate (through regular or irregular channels). They also exploit the factors that **‘pull’** people towards livelihood opportunities in more affluent areas.

Traffickers themselves are part of society. Traffickers can view **trafficking as an economic opportunity**. Lack of opportunities in source countries can **‘push’** people to become traffickers.



# Gender...

**Sex trafficking is the most commonly described form of trafficking and often the easiest to detect.** However trafficking is not a phenomena that only affects women.

There are well documented global and cultural inequalities that contribute to increased vulnerability among female populations world wide. Although female vulnerabilities are exploited by traffickers, traffickers exploit any vulnerability that will allow them to make a profit.

# Gender...

- In the UK, white British and white European males have been recovered from exploitative conditions in traveller sites.
- Throughout western Europe and the UK, vulnerable Romanian men, women and children have been trafficked into street begging in major cities. On occasions they have been maimed in order to encourage donations.
- Many Eastern European men are believe to be being exploited in the British agricultural industry on conditions that vary from indentured labour to labour exploitation.

# Gender...

- 6 out of 100 recruitments are done by a close relative
- 3 out of 10 recruitments are done by a close friend
- Almost half of all recruitments are done by someone known to the victim
- Recruiters come from every age group
- **Female recruiters are often better able to appeal to and establish the trust of young female victims**
- Recruiters often come from the same disadvantaged social and economic background as those they recruit.

# Age

**Victims are often stereotyped as 16-23 year old women. But how old are the traffickers?** Can this help in profiling victims during transit?

Traffickers can be children through to elderly adults. Various national studies show a range of age among known traffickers:

- ☐ Benin: traffickers ranged from 15 – 42 years of age<sup>18</sup>
- ☐ Czech Republic: 19 – 51 years of age<sup>19</sup>
- ☐ Israel: 19 – 58 years of age<sup>20</sup>
- ☐ Togo: early 20s to 50<sup>21</sup>

UNODC, 2008: 'Background Paper: 016 Workshop: Profiling the Traffickers', The Vienna Forum to fight Human Trafficking, 13-15 February 2008, Austria

'In many cases, it has been found that recruiters are older than those they recruit. This has been attributed to the heightened ease with which an older person can manipulate and ultimately recruit a younger person'

(UNODC, 2008)

# Child Sexual Exploitation

‘**Grooming**’ for Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) crosses an interesting boundary where by **movement without consent** (even across a street) constitutes internal child sex trafficking.

With recent news media attention in Rotherham, Bradford, Peterborough and Rochdale interesting issues are raised over the application of trafficking legislation, and vulnerabilities created by age.

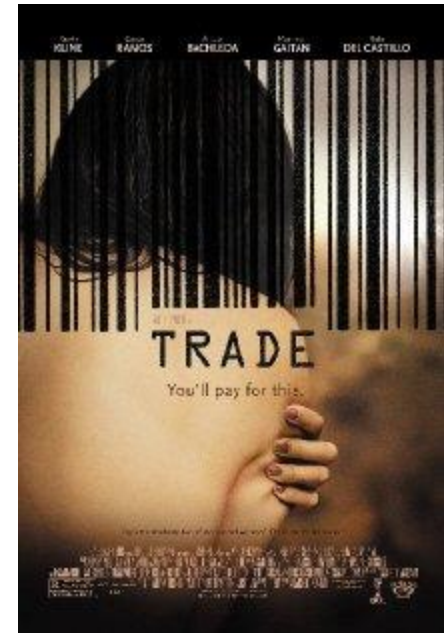
- Brayley, Helen, Cockbain, Eleanor, and Laycock, Gloria, 2011: ‘The Value of Crime Scripting: Deconstructing Internal Child Sex Trafficking’, *Policing*, 5, 2, pp. 132–143
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# Inequality

**Traffickers exploit economic motivations to migrate created by global inequality.**

Traffickers exploit the economic motivation to migrate towards affluent states. Global social and economic inequality and lack of viable livelihood opportunities in source countries 'pushes' people to take great risks in search of a better life. There is a perception of a better life (the 'American dream') to be had in the West that 'pulls' people to migrate. This can be seen in films such as 'Trade' (2007) and 'Lilya4ever'.

Traffickers themselves are part of society. Traffickers can view trafficking and an economic opportunity. Lack of opportunities in source countries can 'push' people to become traffickers. Therefore global economic inequality contributes to trafficking in a number of ways (also see UNODC, 2008).



# Social Construction and Acceptance

## **Human trafficking does not exist in a bubble beyond society.**

It is a demand driven crime - society creates the financial motivation for exploitation, and shapes acceptance of the trade in different social and cultural contexts.

- There is a social acceptance that men can use the services of escorts, prostitutes and strip clubs without any real **social stigma** (Sanders (2008), Phoenix (2009), and Frank(2003).
- When these industries are regulated, research suggests that ‘punters’ drift to a position of ***‘irresponsibilization’*** relying on regulatory policies to ensure the sex industry is exploitation free (Di Nicola et al, 2009).
- Placing **responsibility on consumers** as achieved in the UK through the Policing and Crime Act (2009) can be seen as a step toward altering cultural attitudes toward trafficked sex, although monitoring the industry and punters remains difficult.



# Neutralization Theory

This can be linked with a sense of social **disenfranchisement** among men that become traffickers, finding economic reward and social acceptance within an OCG.

Neutralization Theory provides a bridge to understanding **the justifications or rationalizations traffickers use** to explain their participation in human trafficking (Aronowitz et al, 2010), but remains understudied (UNODC, 2008).

As demonstrated in the film 'human trafficking' (2005), strategies used by traffickers such as 'breaking in' their victims serve multiple purposes:

- to disempower victims and force compliance
- to integrate members into the OCG, ensure that the group is not being infiltrated, and diminish / diffuse individual responsibility (Bloom, 2007)

# Structural factors...

## Schengen Agreement:

The Schengen agreement may ease cross border migration providing new realms of economic opportunity; it also **reduces the costs for traffickers** by removing the need to hide victims in transport or forge documents – giving rise to numerous models of trafficking where **victims are deceived to come to the UK through legitimate means**, and are **exploited once they've arrived** here legitimately.

# Structural factors...

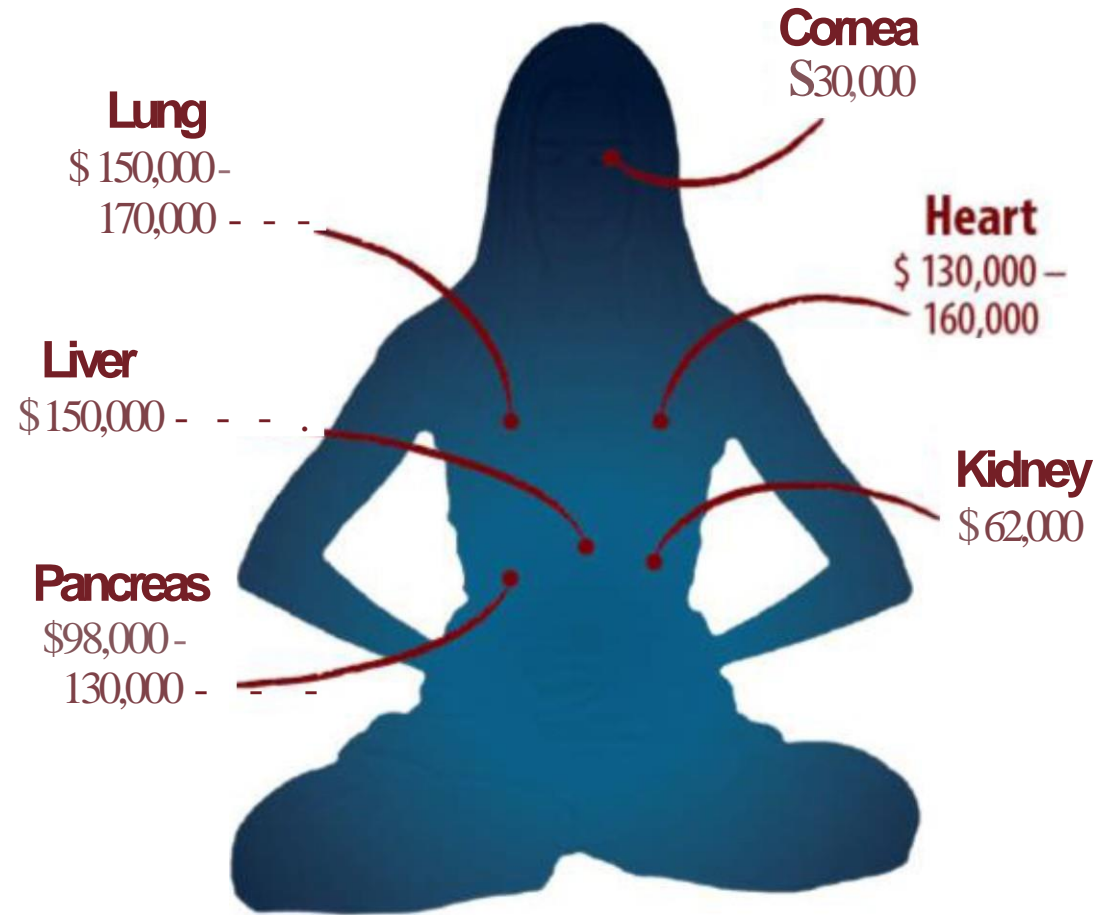
## **Criminalization of the *purchase* of sex in Sweden:**

- Displacement - pimps, traffickers and facilitators avoiding Sweden and increase distribution of women to nearby countries (Norway, Denmark, Germany, Holland) where there is a market (see Ekberg, 2008: 6).
- Accounts from Swedish law enforcement officers also suggest that prostitution is pushed underground into less visible, less easily monitored location.

# Structural factors...

## Organ donor waiting lists:

- Western organ donor lists exceed demand for organs due to diseases (usually related to unhealthy lifestyles)
- 'Black-market' organs can be brought by western patients with adequate funds at relatively low costs



# Structural factors...

## EU Migrant Crisis:

- Vulnerable refugees are being **preyed upon by OCGs, forcing them into prostitution and slave labour, unaccompanied children are particularly at risk**
- ‘Modern, enterprising, **OCGs go where the opportunity is high and the risk is low**’, Brian Donald, Europol’s chief of staff, Madrid, 2015
- **Terrorist groups may be now exploiting the confusion caused by the refugee crisis.** Two of the Isis-affiliated terrorist who perpetrated the Paris attacks entered Europe using the Balkan migration route.

# Balkan Route



# Structural factors...

## Expansion of the EU:

- The deal with Turkey is intended to reduce immigration but may end up having the opposite effect.
- Allowing visa-free travel for Turkish citizens at the height of a migrant crisis, the EU further increases migration.
- Human smugglers have utilised **fake Syrian passports** for non-Syrian **economic migrants** intending to **pose as refugees**.
- **Turkish passports are now in demand** due to believed ease of access the EU, with the EU's borders essentially extending all the way to Syria.



# Post-Brexit: some issues

Despite a lack of funding and a multitude of issues surrounding Brexit, Theresa May recently proposed a **call to action** to end modern slavery at the UN General Assembly, supported by a number of states.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/646246/CALL\\_TO\\_ACTION.PDF](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/646246/CALL_TO_ACTION.PDF)

- Theresa May claims Britain, where an estimated 11,700 people are enslaved, will "**lead the world**" with its efforts to stamp out modern day slavery and human trafficking.
- It pledges **£33.5 million of foreign aid budget** to address trafficking in source countries from which victims are found in the UK
- The Department for exiting the European Union has **not** published a plan to address human trafficking

Brexit could also lead to increased risks for vulnerable UK citizens trafficked into other parts of Europe, reducing their rights and protections within the states to which they have been trafficked.

# Post-Brexit: policing issues

- Britain's most senior operational police officers have expressed **concern over Brexit** and said it will take years of “onerous” work if the UK is to retain the same level of **cooperation** with Europe that it needs to combat international organised crime, human trafficking and terrorism.
- Obviously, we are concerned. To protect the public in our country we need the **ability to share intelligence fast-time**, to exchange information and to cooperate operationally.
- The issue of **Europol** membership is “interesting”
- Lack of **EU arrest warrant** limits information sharing on paedophiles and Child Sexual Offenders
- Until bilateral agreements arranged, child victims left in legal limbo without legally binding protection in Europe

# In Bristol...

**Human Trafficking has been identified or is suspected in a number of markets...**

- Off street prostitution
- On street prostitution
- Cannabis grows
- Indentured labour in the 'traveller' community
- Agricultural labour
- Nail bars
- Car washes

# Clarification

## Prostitution

Sexual Offences Act (2003) and Amendments from Policing and Crime Act (2009), sections 51 to 54

- Solicitation in a public place is illegal (and nuisance rules)
- Causing or inciting prostitution for gain is illegal
- Controlling prostitution for gain is illegal
- Paying for the sexual services of a prostitute subject to force is illegal
- The act of prostitution itself is not illegal

There are many loop-holes that are exploited to enable prostitution to take place in a number of different ways

# Clarification

## **UK Modern Slavery Act (2015):**

Part 6: Transparency in supply chains etc

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/30/contents/enacted>

# Questions...

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# Cases of interest

- R v Kizlaite and Axhami - an example of a group neutralization of the harm caused to their victims through a shared sense of 'diminished responsibility' (Bloom, 2007).
- Trafficking as a family affair –boyfriend and girlfriend (see R v Roci); brother and sister (see R v Tai et al).

# Other resources...

## **Films to watch:**

Sex Traffic  
Human Trafficking  
Eastern Promises  
Trade  
Ghosts  
Lilya4ever  
It's a free world

## **Documentaries/shorts:**

- Torture By Any Other Name - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mt-KNqT7sgY>
- The Journey - <http://www.theguardian.com/film/2009/dec/18/journey-emma-thompson>
- Inhuman Traffic - <https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/mtv-exit-human-trafficking>
- I Am Slave

## **Websites:**

[www.stopthetraffik.org](http://www.stopthetraffik.org)  
[www.eavesforwomen.org.uk](http://www.eavesforwomen.org.uk)  
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[www.blueblindfold.org.uk](http://www.blueblindfold.org.uk)  
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