To highlight the global plight of human trafficking

**Not My Life**

*Not My Life* is the first documentary film to depict the horrifying and dangerous practice of human trafficking and modern slavery on a global scale. Filmed on five continents over a period of four years, it unveils the many faces of trafficking and tells their haunting stories. “What kind of society cannibalizes its own children?” asks director Robert Bilheimer. “Can we do these sorts of things on such a large scale and still call ourselves human in any meaningful sense of the term”

Supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT), the documentary explores the issue of trafficking from different perspectives, forced labour in Africa; street begging and garbage picking in India; sexual trafficking in the United States and Southeast Asia; and various forms of child enslavement and abuse in both North and South America.

**Martina Hanke** has represented UNODC in Brussels since the beginning of 2011. Before coming to Brussels, she worked at UNODC HQ in Vienna supporting the Office in partnership building and resource mobilisation with a range of bilateral donors, international financial institutions and the European Union. Before joining UNODC, Ms. Hanke worked for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome.

**Dima Yared** is a human rights officer at the OHCHR Regional office for Europe (ROE) in Brussels. Prior to joining ROE, she worked in OHCHR headquarters in Geneva where she was assisting the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. Previously, she worked on the Universal Periodical Review as well as within the Rule of Law section at OHCHR, and at an NGO engaging armed non-state actors on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

**Patsy Sörensen** is founder and director of the Antwerp-based NGO Payoke, an NGO focused on assisting victims of human trafficking. From her early profession as art teacher to her political career as Alderman, City Councillor, and Member of the European Parliament to her current role as internationally recognized expert and former member of the EU Expert Group on Human Trafficking, Ms Sörensen has demonstrated her commitment to tackling the crime of human trafficking. She has been a pioneer in the fight against trafficking in human beings, working tirelessly towards providing victims with the support needed to regain their rights, freedom, and dignity; alerting stakeholders to the realities of human trafficking; assisting in the development of a proper legal framework; developing a coordinated and cooperative approach toward victim identification, protection, and prosecution, and using Payoke’s 25 year history of lessons learned to provide guidelines and best practices to other players in the field of counter-trafficking.
To support the anti-trafficking efforts of the European Union, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) have come together to advocate for adherence with UN and international standards and influence trafficking legislation and policy.

In 2011, the European Union adopted a Directive to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings and protect its victims. Member States are now required to transpose the provisions of the Directive into their national legislation. In order to provide guidance to Member States during this transposition process, UNODC, OHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF, ILO and UN Women have produced a legal commentary of the Directive with a human rights-based approach. The Joint UN Commentary puts human rights at the centre of all the efforts, and specifically highlights the child and gender dimensions of trafficking. Based on relevant international and regional standards, the Joint UN Commentary provides guidance to policy-makers and legislators in EU Member States on key articles of the Directive, and makes recommendations for the transposition and implementation of the Directive.

For more information on global human trafficking, and what you can do about it, we recommend that you visit the official website of the film: www.notmylife.org, and the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking: www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/

Other useful links:


Web resource for combating human trafficking: www.humantrafficking.org/

UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking: http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/


UN Special Rapporteurs:

Presentation of Ms. Gulnara Shahinian, the first Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of slavery, its causes and consequences: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Slavery/SRSlavery/Pages/SRSlaveryPageIndex.aspx

Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Trafficking/Pages/TraffickingIndex.aspx

Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Children/Pages/ChildrenIndex.aspx

This handout will be available online on our website, where you can also find list and descriptions of past screenings, trailers and resources: www.unric.org/en/cine-onu

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