



Modern slavery, human trafficking and forced labour are international issues - and therefore require an international response. As parliamentarians, you have the opportunity to engage with key international stakeholders and colleagues.

- The **Network of Parliamentary Champions** is one way of achieving this. The Network is a group of parliamentarians and clerks seeking to combat modern slavery, human trafficking and forced labour by:
- **Lobbying at regional fora** for greater regional collaboration and data-sharing.
  - **Work towards gathering high level political 'buy-in'** for prioritising these issues in the legislatures of the Network members.
  - **Be spokespeople** as parliamentarians across the Commonwealth.
  - **Share stories, actions, parliamentary motions / bills** relating to these issues and support one another through challenges and providing expertise.
  - **Engage additional countries/ neighbouring parliaments** on how they might also prioritise these issues and recruit new parliamentary champions from these legislatures.
  - **Recruit additional 'anti-trafficking champions'** from within your own legislature.

## FIND OUT MORE

CPA UK's Modern Slavery Project supports parliamentarians who want to become champions in the global fight against modern slavery, human trafficking and forced labour.

Please contact us if you are interested in becoming involved in CPA UK's Modern Slavery Project.



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[www.uk-cpa.org/modernslavery](http://www.uk-cpa.org/modernslavery)



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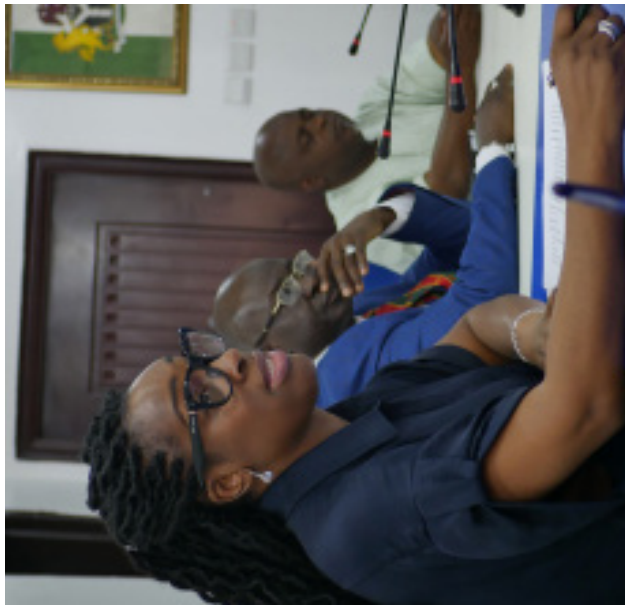


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## TACKLING MODERN SLAVERY, HUMAN TRAFFICKING & FORCED LABOUR

YOUR ROLE AS A PARLIAMENTARIAN





## WHAT IS MODERN SLAVERY, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND FORCED LABOUR?

The UN uses the terms modern slavery, human trafficking & forced labour to refer to situations of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, deception and/or abuse of power. It is thought to claim around **40.3 million** victims worldwide. Some examples of this abuse include:



**Sexual Exploitation:** A person is abused in a sexual manner. This can be through forced prostitution; forced marriage; rape; and forced pornography (including online through smartphones and webcams).



**Debt Bondage:** A person is forced to work in order to pay off a debt. They work for little or no pay, with no control over their debt and with little to no realistic chance of paying the debt off. In some cases this debt is transferred from one generation to the next.



**Forced Labour:** A person is forced to work against their will. If they do not work, they are threatened or punished. Often they are not paid, or paid very little.



**Human Trafficking:** A person is recruited, kept or transported into a situation of abuse. Victims may be physically abused, lied to or threatened. Victims are often also forced to work against their will. Victims are often promised a better life in another country or state for them or their children.



**Domestic Servitude:** A person is abused in their role as a domestic worker in someone's house or property. They may be prevented from leaving the house; may not be paid; experience violence or threats; have their identity documents taken; have no or little contact with their family; and/or forced to work.



## WHY COMBAT MODERN SLAVERY, HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND FORCED LABOUR?

1. **The Universal Declaration of Human Rights** states that "All humans are born free and equal in dignity and rights". This is a standard which the international community has formally committed to uphold.
2. **Parliamentarians are representatives of the people.** Whether directly or indirectly, your constituents are affected by the consequences of these issues on a daily basis. You have a unique, powerful and impactful position - one that can support and save people not only in your area, but around the world.
3. **Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Forced Labour are seen as low risk, high reward crimes, with an estimated annual profit of \$150 billion to the detriment of the world's national economies.** Tackling this issue will go a long way to effectively combatting national and transnational organised crime.
4. **Victims of these crimes are unable to contribute to their country's economy.** If they survive, they are often judged and excluded from their society. They are robbed of the chance to use their talents to their country in a fair and secure environment. Tackling these issues will allow for individuals to fulfil themselves whilst contributing to the development of their country.

## YOUR ROLE AS A PARLIAMENTARIAN

As a parliamentarian, you are in a unique and powerful position to tackle this global menace. You have many effective tools and strategies at your disposal, including:

- **Making a statement, asking a question or launching a debate** on the floor of the Parliament
- **Joining or creating a relevant parliamentary committee** or cross-party interest group
- **Raising awareness** with your constituents on the issue
- **Creating a cross-sector working group** - for example with the public, private and voluntary sectors
- **Engaging with neighbouring and regional parliaments** and partner organisations on the issue
- **Engaging with intergovernmental organisations** on the issue

