

Press Release

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Latvia to host next Council of Europe regional seminar on Action against Human Trafficking

Strasbourg, 15.09.2006 -The promotion of the Council of Europe Trafficking Convention and debates on national measures to prevent this new form of slavery are top of the agenda at a regional awareness raising and information seminar on 21 and 22 September in Riga (Latvia).

The seminar is the second in a series of five regional events organised by the Council of Europe during 2006 in co-operation with different member states, as part of the Council's Campaign to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings.

Representatives of governments, NGOs and other experts in the field coming from Austria, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden and Ukraine will exchange and share their experiences on action against human trafficking. They will also receive information on how the Trafficking Convention of the Council of Europe can be put into use as an efficient tool for combating this crime. The Trafficking Convention was opened for signature in Warsaw in May 2005, during the Third Summit of the Council of Europe.

The Parliamentary Secretary of the Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vaira Paegle, Ambassador Peteris Kārlis Elferts, Permanent Representative of Latvia to the Council of Europe, and Hanno Hartig from the Council's Directorate General of Human Rights will deliver the opening addresses.

The seminar will be open to the press (Maritime Park Hotel, Riga, "Berlin" hall). Press opportunities will be announced on the spot.

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Further information: www.coe.int/trafficking

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