



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK**

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

THIRD COMMITTEE

**ITEM 110: CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE / ITEM 111: INTERNATIONAL DRUG  
CONTROL**

**STATEMENT BY MYRIAM OEHRI, SECOND SECRETARY**

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. Chair,

In December, we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – the common standard of achievements for all of us. It ensures, for the first time in history, that fundamental human rights are universally protected.

In the Universal Declaration we have all agreed that “No one shall be held in slavery or servitude”. Despite this clear commitment under customary international law, modern slavery and human trafficking still are among the biggest human rights scandals of our times. There is an estimated 40 Mio. people directly affected by these crimes globally. Around 15 Mio. people are victims of forced marriage and around 25 Mio. people are trapped in forced labor. Almost three quarters of the victims of modern slavery are female.

Modern slavery has an insidious presence in our daily lives: Laptops, computers, and mobile phones, garments, fish, cocoa, and sugarcane are just some of the products whose supply chains are affected. We often cannot say for certain that the products we use do not stem from

modern slavery. Modern slavery is thus a crime that involves us all – directly or indirectly – but it is invisible to most people. The prevalence of modern slavery is higher in some regions than in others. Still, virtually every country is implicated. Modern slavery not only occurs in developing States, but also in leading global economies, as recent data by the Global Slavery Index shows.

Mr. Chair,

Modern slavery and human trafficking are not only grave human rights violations. They are also a lucrative business model generating more than USD 150 bio. in revenues yearly. Disrupting financial flows associated with modern slavery and human trafficking is therefore a crucial element in the fight of these crimes. Last week, in the margins of the General Debate, our Foreign Minister, together with the Foreign Minister of Australia, launched the “Liechtenstein Initiative” for a Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking – a public-private partnership we developed in cooperation with the United Nations University. The Commission brings together actors from retail banks, hedge funds, global regulators, institutional investors, survivors as well as the UN and the anti-slavery movement. By 2019, it will develop actionable measures for the global financial sector to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking.

Mr. Chair,

Cybercrime poses complex challenges to our security and also a direct threat to the enjoyment of human rights, in particular the right to privacy. It is imperative that the questions of investigative powers and criminalization are not used to dismantle human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The UN has repeatedly affirmed that the same rights that people enjoy offline must also be protected online. It is the obligation of every State to ensure that any interference with the right to privacy is consistent with the principle of legality, necessity and proportionality. Regulation of Cyberspace and the Criminalization of Cybercrime therefore need to be carefully

calibrated, in order to find a proper balance between security concerns and the respect for human rights. Liechtenstein strongly supports the strengthening of international law that regulates activities in cyberspace, through regulations based on transparency, cooperation and human rights, such as the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.

I thank you.