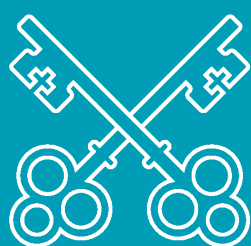


International conference Pastoral Orientations on Human Trafficking

ROME / 9 - 11 APRIL 2019



MIGRANTS
REFUGEES

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A. Executive Summary

Gathered in Sacrofano, Italy, from April 9 to 11, the Pastoral Orientations on Human Trafficking event received 191 people. They have participated in 3 intensive days of co-creation and open innovation with the aim of finding solutions to the problems that affects migrants and refugees around the globe. To achieve this, all the attendees had the chance to use an online open innovation platform www.poht2019.org customized for Migrants & Refugees, generating dynamism of ideas throughout the event.

The working sessions were organized in 18 groups, integrated by 10 participants with the same spoken language and supported by a Moderator and a Secretary. The Moderators were in charge of leading the debate and helping the participants to organize and create different proposals. While the Secretaries were responsible for uploading as many proposals as the group had, and then vote the three most priority with the support of the whole table.

At the end of the 7 sessions, during Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th a set of 695 proposals were generated, from the 18 tables organized for that purpose.

B. Conference Objectives

To study and assimilate the 40-page document and put the Pastoral Orientations into practice. The fruits include good ideas for implementing the Pastoral Orientations, more effective collaboration as well as enhanced communication. The POHT will serve to guide the work of the Migrants and Refugees Section and its collaborators on this complex phenomenon which keeps on growing and which seriously concerns the whole Church and all of humanity.

C. Pastoral Orientations on Human Trafficking (POHT)

The Migrants & Refugees Section issued a new document entitled, “Pastoral Orientations on Human Trafficking”. The document, aimed at orienting the action of the whole Catholic Church to fight human trafficking (HT).

D. Our Conference Approach

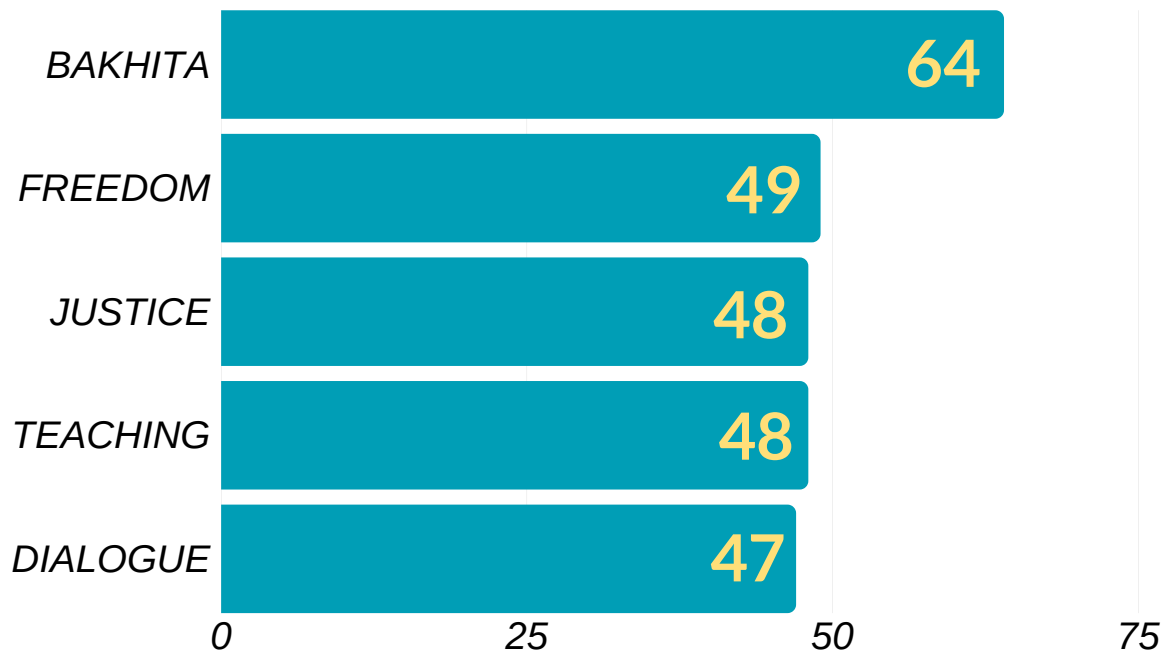
During seven sessions, the 18 groups addressed the realities of human trafficking with a view to expressing what can and should be done to combat this scourge upon all humanity. At each session, each group gave priority to five proposals and, through a process of selection and editing, these were distilled into the assembly’s five priorities for action and one for communications.

All the proposals were expressed as priority tasks for the Catholic Church. In this case, the expression “Catholic Church” means and includes the visible Church leadership, the Bishops (the national Bishops’ Conferences as well as the regional and continental conferences, especially their Migration Commissions, as well as individual dioceses), priests, religious sisters and brothers, officers and heads of organizations. It also and equally means every member of the Catholic Church, acting as a body. Further, it includes organizations of other faiths or beliefs, their leaders and active members, with whom Catholics at all levels cooperate in fighting human trafficking. In a few cases, it is Bishops Conferences which are identified as receiving the particular proposal.

E. GENERAL RESULTS

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **695**

TOP 5 GROUPS IN ALL SESSIONS



Human Trafficking in the Context of Sexual Exploitation



Human Trafficking in the Context of Sexual Exploitation:
*commodification of human beings, prostitution,
pornography, demand aspect, special vulnerability of women,
children and adolescents.*

QUALITATIVE ABSTRACT

Focused on trafficking in persons in the context of sexual exploitation, especially in relation to prostitution and pornography, as a consequence of a growing "commodification" of human beings and a response to a real demand from "consumers".

QUANTITATIVE RESULTS

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **156**

TOP 5 GROUPS



MOST OUTSTANDING PROPOSALS:

- *To engage proactively in raising public awareness of the different forms of HT for sexual exploitation (e.g. prostitution, pornography, online sexual exploitation), in order to dispel myths and clarify the responsibilities of the demand side.*
- *To develop programs/modules on HT that Bishops, priests, religious congregations, parishes, Catholic schools and seminaries can use for educational purposes.*
- *To advocate for international treaties and national laws that criminalize those who buy sex services and those who profit from victims, in order to ensure protection to victims and offer holistic social services.*
- *To collect quality data and document evidence at all levels, to build awareness campaigns and advocacy work, and to foster the development of adequate services for victims and prosecution of perpetrators.*
- *To adopt a common and correct terminology in describing the phenomenon of prostitution (it is not “sex work”), by making it consistent with human dignity and making it clear in what sense prostitutes are victims.*
- *To offer training modules on HT for sexual exploitation to journalists and to help them identify reliable sources and trustworthy organizations working in the field.*

Human Trafficking in the Context of Slave Labour



Human Trafficking in the Context of Slave Labour:
construction, domestic work, maritime industry, modern technology industries, agriculture, supply chains, the business connection, special vulnerability of women, children and adolescents.

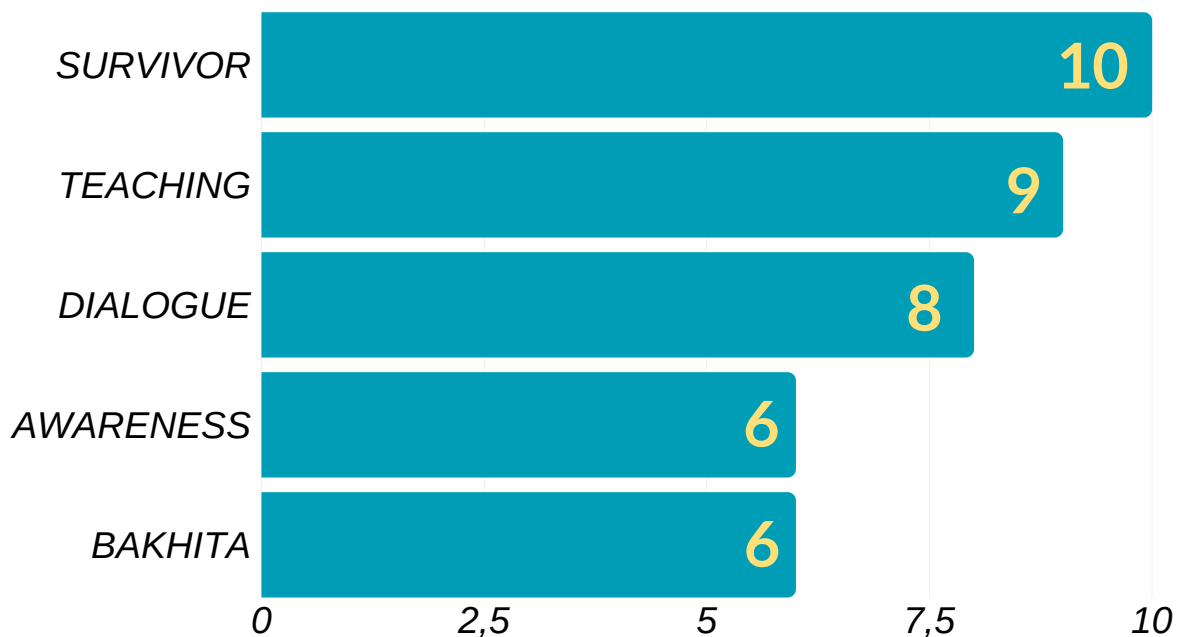
QUALITATIVE ABSTRACT

Discussions on trafficking in the context of slave labour, particularly in the construction, domestic work, maritime and technological industries and agriculture sectors. Also the patterns of trafficking in supply chains and their link with the business world were analyzed.

QUANTITATIVE SUMMARY

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **98**

TOP 5 GROUPS



MOST OUTSTANDING PROPOSALS:

- *To develop a responsible procurement policy for employers and an ethical consumer guide to be disseminated among Catholics and beyond.*
- *To advocate for corporate accountability in the supply chain and law enforcement in cases of slave labour.*
- *To engage proactively in the eradication of child labour and child exploitation, raising awareness on the issue and advocating for greater penalties for those who employ and encourage forced child labour.*
- *To offer pre-departure orientation programs for migrant workers to inform them about the risks of servitude and slave labour and empower them to report abuses.*
- *To request authorities to undertake frequent inspections of work conditions and treatment of workers in the labour sectors that are particularly at risk of abuse, namely the maritime industry; agriculture, manufacturing, domestic work; and other service industries.*
- *Catholic media should commit to “opening the eyes” of consumers who are unconsciously supporting slave labour when buying very cheap products which generate demand for “slave labour free” products.*

Human Trafficking and Human Smuggling



Human Trafficking and Human Smuggling:

connection with humanitarian crisis and discrimination of ethnic minorities, engagements of criminal organizations, abuses and exploitations along the journey.

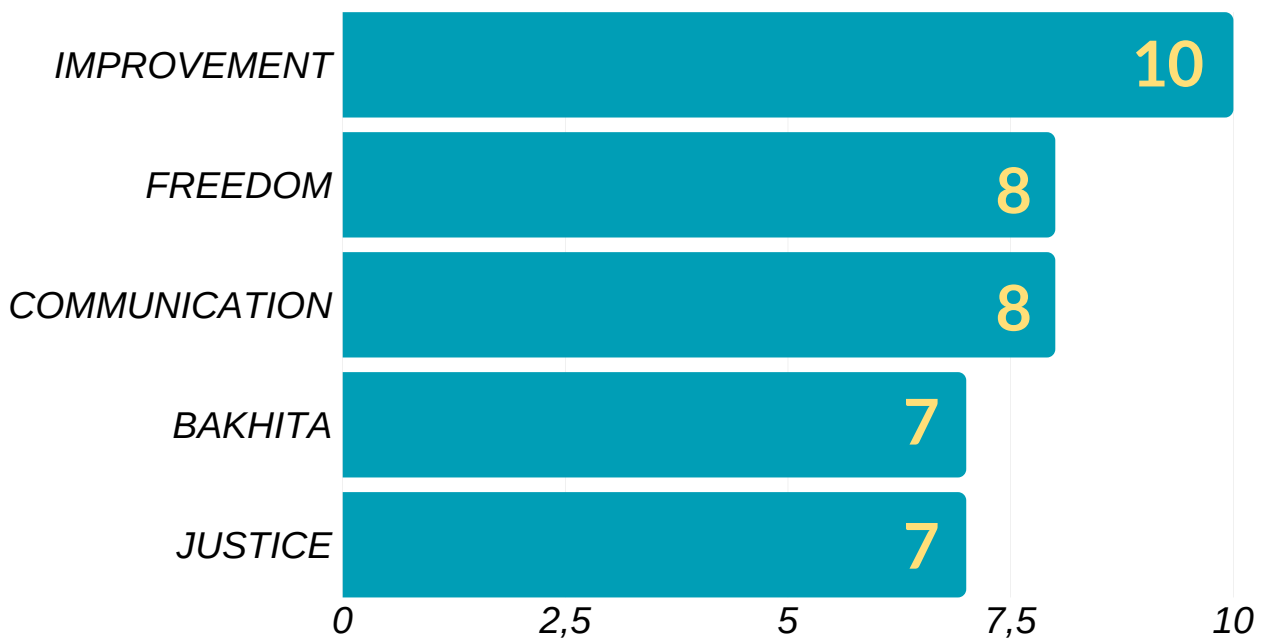
QUALITATIVE ABSTRACT

Devoted to the close link between trafficking and human beings, particularly in the context of recent humanitarian crisis and discrimination against ethnic minorities. The growing involvement of criminal organizations was highlighted, which frequently abuse and exploit migrants during travel.

QUANTITATIVE SUMMARY

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **95**

TOP 5 GROUPS



MOST OUTSTANDING PROPOSALS:

- *To engage in educational campaigns on the connection between migrant smuggling and HT, all along the migrant route (origin, transit, destination, return), empowering local people to recognize and report HT activities.*
- *To offer pre-departure orientation programmes for would-be migrants to inform them about the regular pathways of migration and the risks of irregular migration.*
- *To advocate for simpler and more ample channels of regular migration, including humanitarian visas, sponsorship programmes, educational visas, etc. to prevent smuggling.*
- *To set up temporary shelters and service centres along the main migration routes, in order to help meet the basic needs of migrants and provide specialized assistance to smuggled migrants who have become victims of HT.*
- *To promote programmes that will foster local sustainable development in countries of origin so as to make migration a real (not coerced) choice; programmes for returnees should also be developed to facilitate true reintegration.*
- *Catholic media should foster their partnership with journalists, NGOs and institutions to encourage their engagement in well-designed awareness campaigns on the connection between migrant smuggling and HT.*

Other Forms of Human Trafficking



Other Forms of Human Trafficking:

forced marriage, servitude, forced begging, organ-harvesting, special vulnerability of women, children and adolescents.

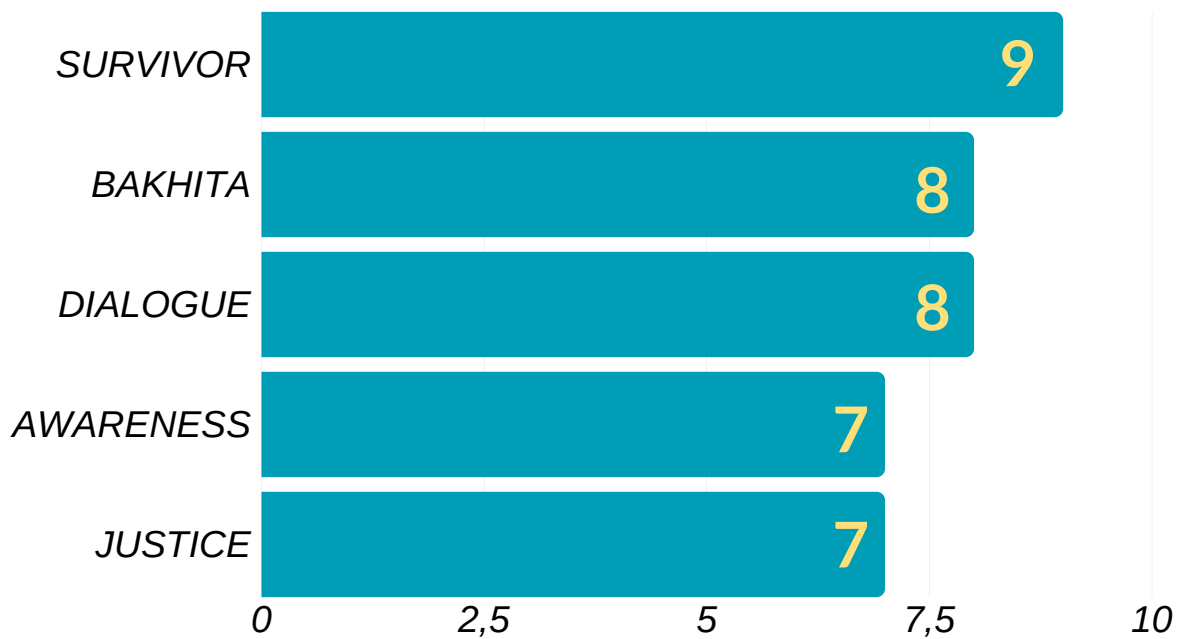
QUALITATIVE ABSTRACT

This session focused on trafficking in persons for the purposes of forced marriage, servitude, begging, slavery and organ trafficking; as with other forms of trafficking, the special vulnerability of women, children and adolescents was also highlighted.

QUANTITATIVE SUMMARY

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **98**

TOP 5 GROUPS



MOST OUTSTANDING PROPOSALS:

- *To undertake popular awareness campaigns, engaging relevant stakeholders, on the less known forms of HT, namely forced marriage, servitude, forced begging, organ harvesting, reproductive exploitation and other forms of abuse and exploitation.*
- *To tackle the root causes of organ trafficking by promoting healthy lifestyles, sensitizing people on health issues (e.g. alcohol consumption), supporting the system of free and voluntary organ donations (and increasing its transparency), and advocating for appropriate legislation.*
- *To collect data and evidence on the less known forms of HT, to produce specialized knowledge and translate it into useful materials for catechism, pastoral care of youth and other kinds of education/training at the parish level.*
- *Bishops Conferences and dioceses, starting from the POHT, should set up monitoring mechanisms on HT and integrate the concern about HT in their pastoral plans.*
- *To denounce cases of forced marriage and engage in its prevention by advocating for protective legislation and policies and urging respect for human dignity for both parties in marriage.*
- *Catholic media should engage in investigating lesser known forms of HT, by documenting and broadcasting “real stories” which are likely to be more effective in generating massive awareness.*

Identification, Prevention and Prosecution of Human Trafficking



Identification, Prevention and Prosecution of Human Trafficking:
*overcoming the reluctance, building trust with the civil authorities,
offer of alternative livelihoods, prosecution of perpetrators, adequate
policy framework.*

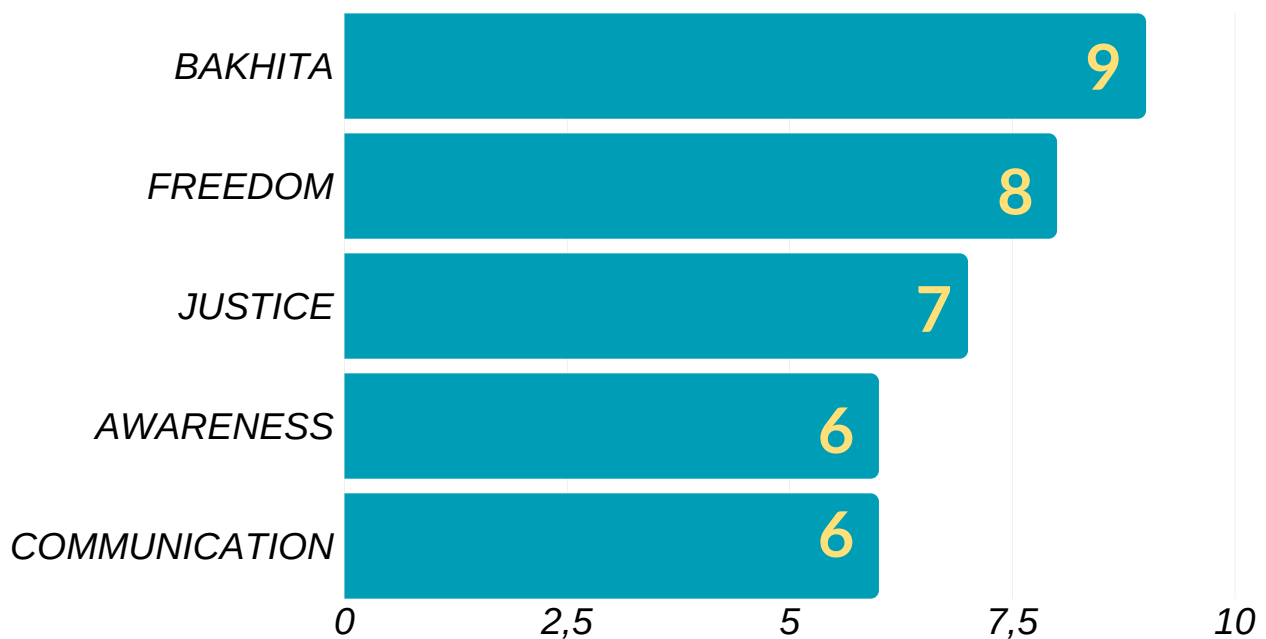
QUALITATIVE ABSTRACT

The problem of identification, prevention and prosecution of trafficking was discussed, stressing the point that it is essential to help survivors overcome their reluctance to report, restoring confidence in the authorities and providing them with alternative means of support. Equally important is to ensure the prosecution of criminals, through appropriate legislative frameworks.

QUANTITATIVE SUMMARY

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **82**

TOP 5 GROUPS



MOST OUTSTANDING PROPOSALS:

- *Bishops Conferences should establish specific commissions on HT tasked to collect data and evidence, identify and monitor the trends, prevent vulnerable people from being victimized, and to advocate with governments for appropriate protection and prosecution.*
- *To coordinate with other relevant stakeholders and collaborate in providing training from a grassroots perspective for law enforcers, judges, social workers and other professionals.*
- *To establish programmes and provide resources to support pastoral workers engaged in fighting HT in order to protect them from retaliation by criminals.*
- *To establish a global platform on HT which would serve to share data and evidence, concerns and best practices, documents and materials.*
- *To develop, on all Church levels, strong internal and external mechanisms to guarantee transparency and to identify and prevent HT within the Church.*
- *Catholic media should jointly initiate a long-term global campaign against HT, focusing each year on a specific form of HT.*

Protection of Survivors



Protection of Survivors:

holistic approach, physical and mental health, spiritual/pastoral care, social and protective services, re-integration of HT survivors in hosting communities or communities of origin.

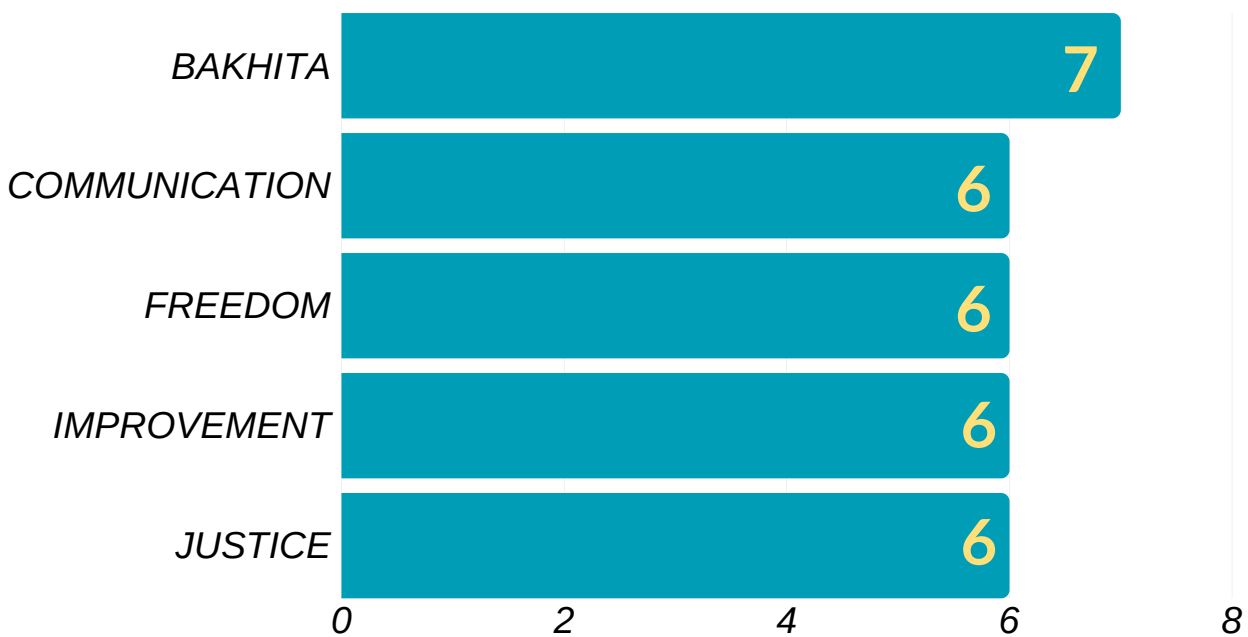
QUALITATIVE ABSTRACT

Analysis of the programs for the protection of survivors, underlining the need for a holistic approach, which skillfully combines physical and mental health, spiritual and pastoral assistance, social and protection services, reintegration into host societies or societies of origin.

QUANTITATIVE SUMMARY

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **82**

TOP 5 GROUPS



MOST OUTSTANDING PROPOSALS:

- *To involve HT survivors as partners in protection and assistance of victims, advocating for their meaningful inclusion in the development of programmes and policies on HT (no decision about us, without us).*
- *To request the engagement of Catholic universities and professional associations in research on HT, development of protective legislation, specialized training and pro bono professional services for survivors.*
- *To invest in the protection of HT survivors with a holistic and multidisciplinary approach aiming at empowering them, fostering their resilience and promoting their active citizenship and labour inclusion.*
- *To request that dioceses, parishes and religious congregations offer available and suitable structures as temporary shelters and centres to provide specialized assistance to survivors.*
- *To promote the possibilities of encounters with HT survivors, engaging particularly with youth communities, in order to foster peer to peer dynamics, overcome stigma and facilitate social inclusion.*
- *Catholic media should look into the possibility of bringing into light, whenever possible, the issue of HT and protection of survivors in every event organized by the Catholic Church.*

Partnership in Responding to Human Trafficking



Partnership in Responding to Human Trafficking:

pastoral communication strategy, organized responses and effective collaboration among different actors (Catholic, FBOs, NGOs, GOs, IOs and others).

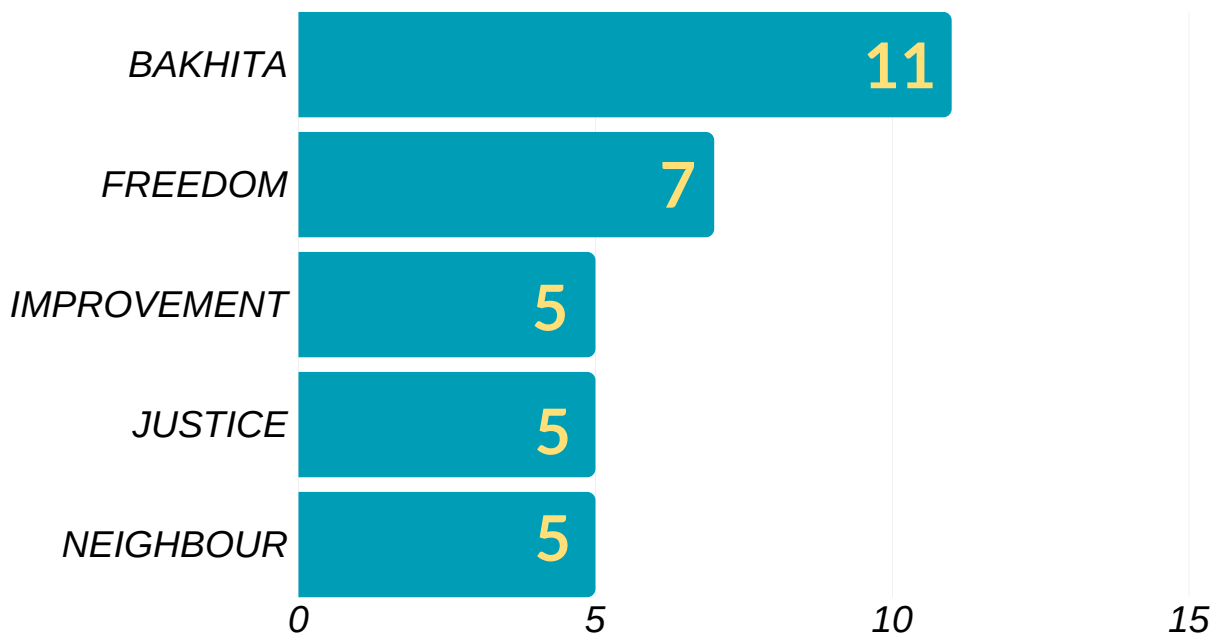
QUALITATIVE ABSTRACT

The last session focused on the urgent need for coordination and collaboration in the fight against trafficking, through the promotion of a common pastoral communication strategy and shared programs between different actors - Catholics, religious organizations, NGOs, government agencies, international organizations and others.

QUANTITATIVE SUMMARY

TOTAL PROPOSALS: **74**

TOP 5 GROUPS



MOST OUTSTANDING PROPOSALS:

- *To foster cooperation in responding to HT among different structures and offices, religious congregations, Catholic organizations and networks.*
- *To create new and strengthen existing partnerships with relevant stakeholders (e.g. government authorities, civil society and private sector), and to respond promptly and adequately to the challenge posed by HT.*
- *To acknowledge women's important role in the fight against HT, to open up directive roles for them, and to advocate for a gender-balanced approach in the formulation of policies and programmes on HT and in the distribution of responsibilities.*
- *To promote joint training programmes on HT for pastoral agents, NGO workers and law enforcers, in order to encourage stronger partnerships in counteracting HT.*
- *Conference participants should commit to disseminating all the conclusions and recommendations of this conference, by implementing the suggestions and reporting about concrete results in the next gathering.*
- *Catholic media should feature real stories and reliable data in order to avoid stereotypes that change the narrative on HT. Stories and data can be posted on a website or shared by an app fed by users.*

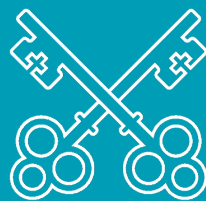
F. FINAL CONCLUSIONS

by Fr. Fabio Baggio - Fr. Michael Czerny

The outstanding 42 proposals are expressed as action verbs, with a sense of urgency and in a spirit of cooperation. At the same time, it is clear that no Church body or member can do everything, and so these 42 items are indeed proposals for each one to consider and then choose among, depending on the local circumstances, needs and resources.

PASTORAL ORIENTATIONS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Where are your enslaved
brother and sister?
Pope Francis, 2013



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WWW.MIGRANTS-REFUGEES.VA
WWW.POHT2019.ORG