

DOBŘÁ PRAXE V SOCIÁLNÍ PRÁCI INSPIRACE A PŘÍLEŽITOSTI

Mezinárodní odborný seminář v rámci projektu
Systémová podpora profesionálního výkonu sociální práce

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New Challenges of social work in transforming society of Bosnia and Herzegovina Working with victims of human trafficking - Challenges of Social Work research and practice

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Bosnia and Herzegovina demographical and administrative map



BiH Migrations: approx. 1,5 million people (WB, 2005) or 38% of the total BiH population (approx. 3,5 million)



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Migrations in BiH during War (1992-1995)



**1.000.000
displaced**

**1.200.000
refugees**

**Out of 4,5 mil. BiH
population (1991
census) 50%
migrated**

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WHY RESEARCH HUMAN TRAFFICKING FROM SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVE

- The main goal:

Assessment of mechanisms and processes that suppose to provide social reaction via different social actors involved in combat against human trafficking, during the processes of identification, rehabilitation, re-socialization and re/integration of victims..

- Two topics of Social Work:

- 1. New research topic in the field of social work in BiH;**
- 2. New field in which social workers intervene in BiH;**



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1. Definitions of Human Trafficking

- Who are the victims of human trafficking? Universal Declaration defines this phenomenon in the “Palermo Protocol”, year 2000.
- The European Commission, year 2004.
- Introducing term “victim”, “exploitation”, “vulnerability” etc.
- The Result: making distinction between human trafficking and prostitution, illegal migration, migrants smuggling etc.
- Victims: women, children, men (foreign citizens, domestic citizens); term “survivor” lately introduced.
- Traffickers – well organized (men, women, couples)



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2. SOCIAL WORK



One of the main tasks of social work is to introduce and implement changes in social situations in order to change the society approach towards different social problems.

Change in focus: from social work with clients to social work with individuals...

Photo published by NEST –STOP Trafficking NGO(Denmark) , 2007



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SOCIAL WORK THEORETICAL FRAMWORK

- **Theoretical framework of social work as social reaction on deviations and phenomenon of human trafficking**
 1. Ecological perspective on deviations
 2. Structural-functional perspective on deviations
- **Relevant Models of Social Work treatment of victims of human trafficking**
 1. System approach with family orientation
 2. Some concepts of feministic paradigms
 3. Empowerment model (recovery and re/integration)
- **We can talk about social integration and social reintegration of VoHT**



RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- THE MAIN RESEARCH GOAL:

To assess mechanisms and processes that need to provide answers by society institutional and organizations involved in combat against human trafficking, during the process of identification, rehabilitation, re- socialization and re/integration of victims of human trafficking.

- TWO SOCIAL WORK TOPICS:

1 – a research in the field of social work

2 – a field in which social workers intervene



METHODS USED IN THIS RESEARCH

- **Documents Contents Analysis Method**
- **Exploration Method:** *survey questioner and interview*
- **Survey Questioner:** constructed for the needs of this research; divided in 2 parts: general (11 questions) and specific (consisted of 10 questions – open, closed and combined types of questions), including a question on assessment of professional involvement in different phases of work with VoT – 21 questions).
- **Interview:** directed and semi-standard. Key issues: overall role of the Institution, the most important activities conducted by the Institution, the role during different phases of working with VoT, cooperation with other partners in combat against human trafficking (with special attention to cooperation with SWC), official contacts with VoT, decision making with regard to support to VoT, official involvement during the process of repatriation and/or re/integration of VoT.



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RESEARCH POPULATION

Level of Authority	INSTITUTIONS			
	SWC	BiH Institutions	NGO	TOTAL
BiH	---	6	1	7
RS	62	---	---	62
FBiH	80	---	---	80
DB	1	---	---	1
Total Population	143	6	1	150

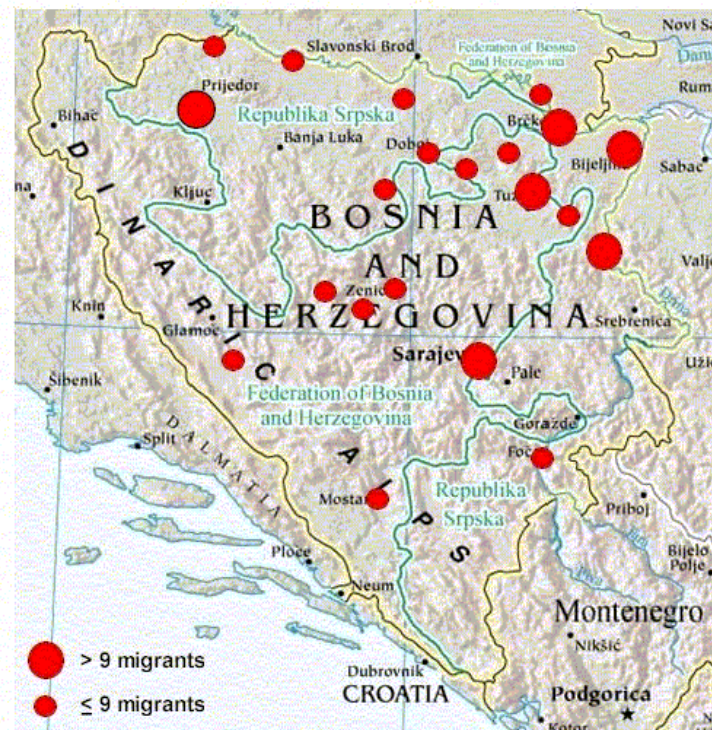


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Phenomenology – Main routes of human trafficking in Balkans



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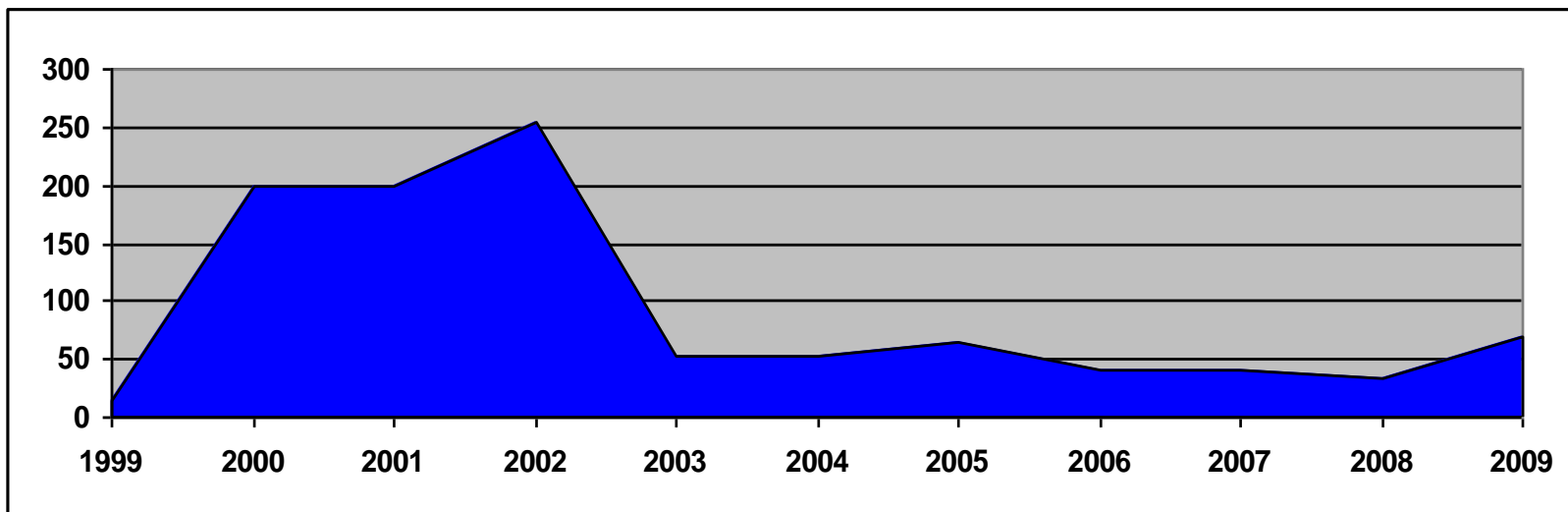
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Specificity of BiH compared with the countries in the Region

- Total number of identified victims of human trafficking in BiH 1999-2009 (approx.1100) – **one of the challenges of this research**



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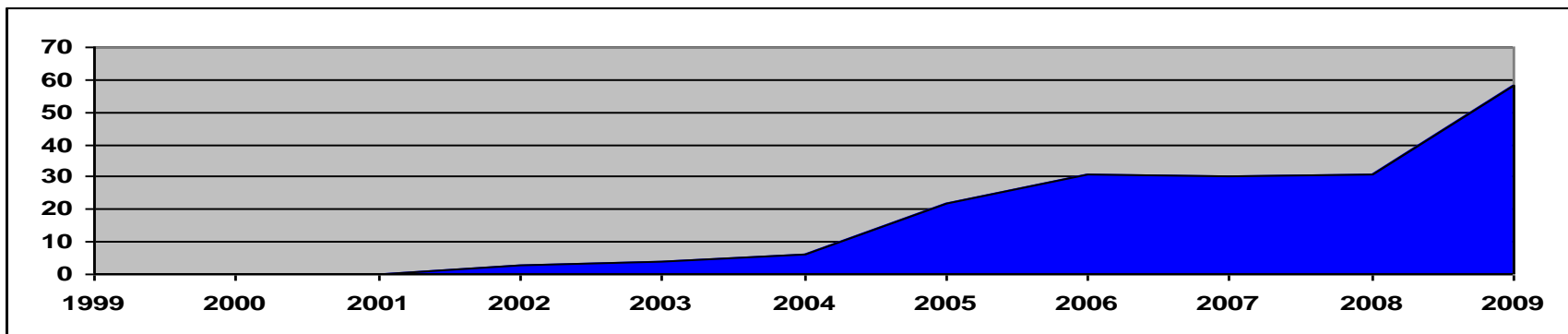
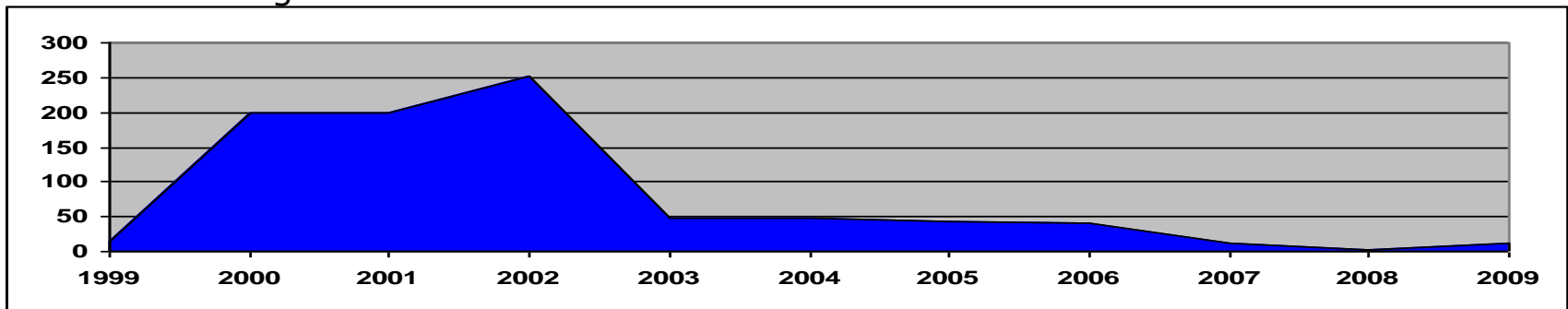
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BiH – from mainly transit and destination country to mainly country of origin

- Ration between identified foreign citizens and citizens of BiH victims of human trafficking



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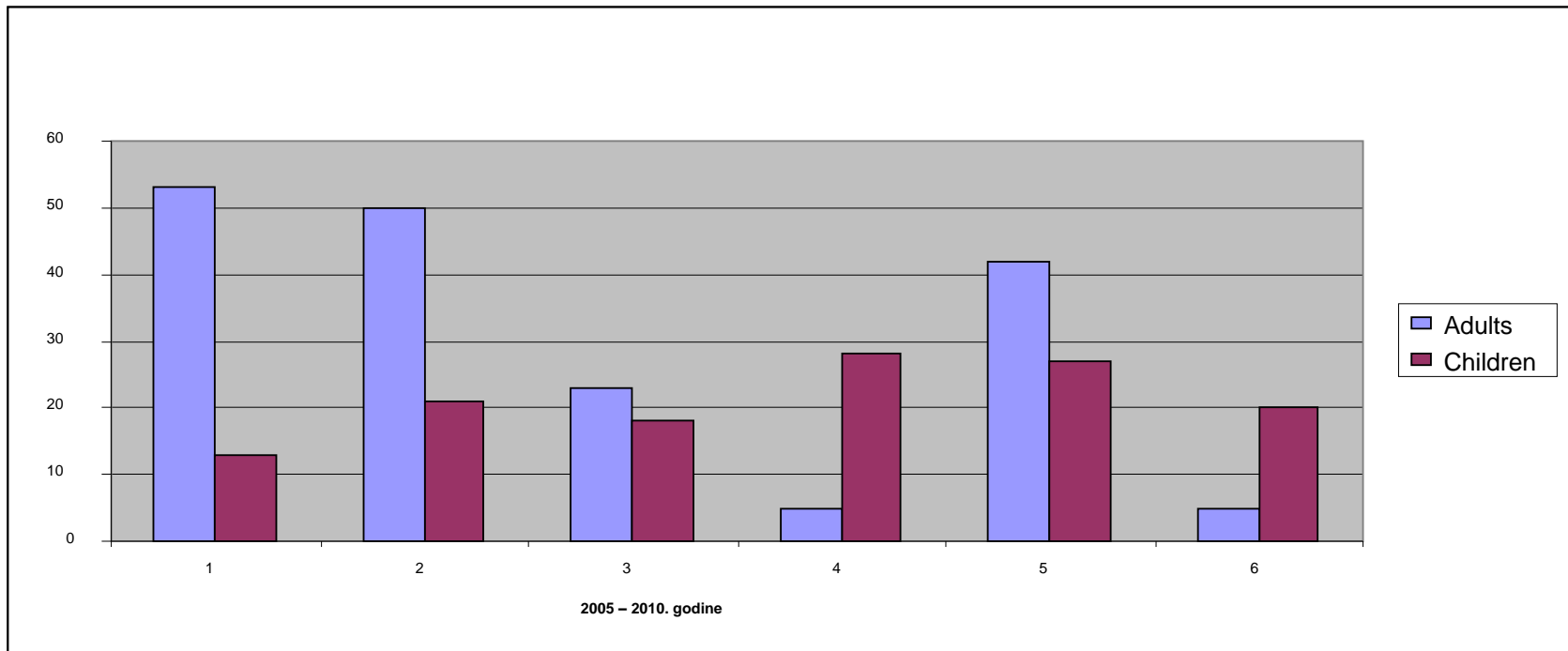


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Another increase in trend – number of children victims of human trafficking in BiH

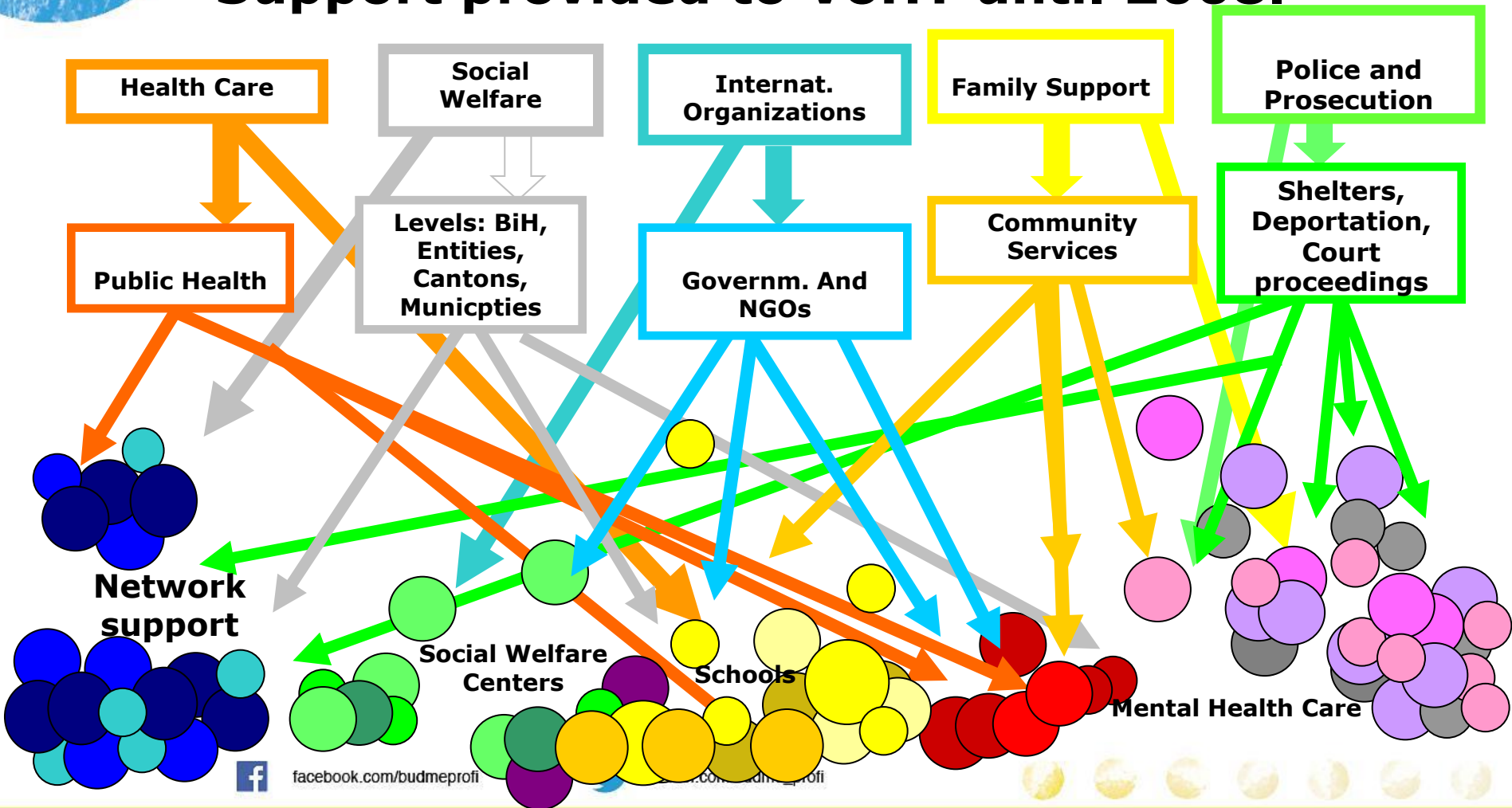
- **Period from 2005. to 2010.**



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Support provided to VoHT until 2008.



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INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH – SINCE 2008.

- State Coordinator  • Appointment of Inter-Ministerial group and coordination of activities; Bringing Action Plans etc.
- Regional Monitoring Teams  • Identification of victims, escorting to shelter; information management and cooperation with other partners.
- NGOs and other partner organizations  • Shelter, necessary help and support while in Shelter.
- Social Welfare Centers  • Prevention activities, diagnostics, treatment and counseling, organizing local resources (community), monitoring etc. Specially important role: custody.



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FORMS OF SERVICES

1. Shelter

- NGO Forum of Solidarity – EMMAUS

2. Medical care and support

- By NGOs

3. Psychological and psychiatric assistance

- By NGOs

4. Legal aid and support

- By NGOs

5. Education and professional training

- By NGOs

6. Employment support

- By NGOs

7. Family mediation and counseling

- NGOs do not provide this service

- Social Welfare Centers – **74% never provided shelter**; 26% - Yes via NGOs
- Social Welfare Centers – **79% never**; 21% - Yes via NGOs
- Social Welfare Centers – **80% never**; 20% - Yes via NGOs
- Social Welfare Centers – **76% never**; 24% - Yes (1-4 times)
- Social Welfare Centers – **87% never**; 13% - Yes (in 1-2 cases)
- Social Welfare Centers – **95% never**; 5% - Yes (in 1 case)
- Social Welfare Centers – **83% never**; 17% - Yes (in 1-3 case)



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SWCs participation in treatment of VoHT in BiH

- Counseling with families of children VoHT
- Group therapy activities during rehabilitation process
- Occupancy therapy with VoHT



RESEARCH RESULTS

- **56% no experience;** 23% always provide this service
- **56% no experience;** 22% do not provide this service
- **70% no experience;** 17% do not provide this service



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REHABILITATION, RE-SOCIALIZATION AND REPATRIATION PHASE

Goals:

- *Rehabilitation – providing psycho-physical and social support to victims in order to regain lost capabilities and re-vitalize regardless all difficulties;*
- *Re-socialization – planned and system-programmed process of correcting socially not-adjusted opinions, beliefs, values, attitudes and behaviors. Basic goal: re/integration;*
- *Repatriation – concerns victims that are foreign citizens. This process begins with free-will-agreement to return to the country of origin.*



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Participation of SWC during phases of Rehabilitation, Re-socialization and Repatriation

RESEARCH RESULTS

- Change of communication patterns in family →
 - Learning new social roles →
 - Contact with children VoHT during re-socialization process →
 - Social network assessment →
- **58% no experience**; 26% often apply activities in this direction
 - **60% no experience**; 25% often and always
 - **53% have no contact**; 34% if needed, a 5% weekly and monthly, while only % had daily contacts with children VoHT as their clients
 - **58% no experience**; 3% never; 16% often



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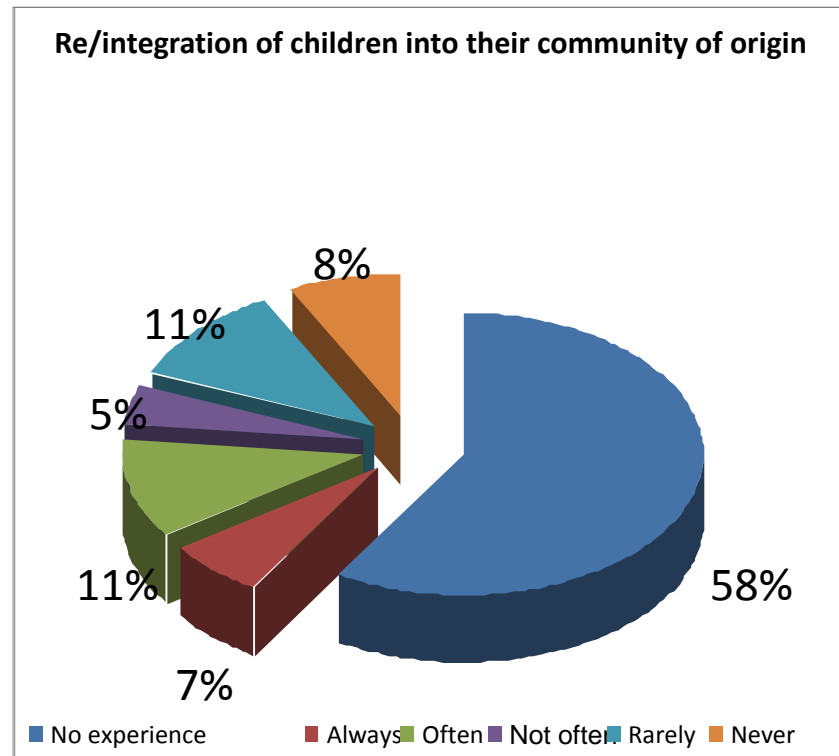
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RE/INTEGRATION PHASE

4 DIMENTIONS OF RE/INTEGRATION:

1. *Physical*
2. *Socio-economical*
3. *Socio-political*
4. *Cultural*

Re/integration of children into their community of origin



INSTEAD OF CONCLUSIONS

Current situation – Social Work challenges and problems

- Human trafficking phenomenon statistically exists in BiH since 1999. and has its specificities in comparison with other countries in the Region – the highest number of identified VoHT and significant decrease in number of identified VoHT foreign citizens in past 5 years. At the same time, there is an increase in number of domestic victims, first of all children.
- Partners' Networking formally started a process that demanded more active participation of social welfare systems.
- Education of Social Workers – since 2010. – process has not been finished and evaluation was not carried out.
- The role of Social Work is recognized from all other partners as very important, but not developed and present in practice.



INSTEAD OF CONCLUSIONS

Critical reflection

- Etiology factors recognized in BiH context require more active role of society and state in order to reduce their impact, and to reduce possibilities for recruitment of new victims and/or re-victimization.
- Social Welfare Centers officially exists as partners, but participation in Interdisciplinary Teams and work with VoHT in practice depends on individual activities of social workers and there is no system solutions and procedures. This fact limits the success of rehabilitation and re-socialization processes which therefore has direct impact on the re/integration of VoHT..
- Such approach leaves room for constant critics towards social welfare sector and at the same time the field of social work does not have sufficient support from authorities in comparison to responsibilities.
- Consequences of such approach: Re/integration Programs are neglected which has direct impact on position of VoHT, meaning that their position is worse then before the recruitment in the chain of HT.



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INSTEAD OF CONCLUSIONS

Some recommendations

- It is necessary to intensify prevention activities and social strategies and programs that anticipate more active role of social welfare representatives.
- Formal cooperation of all partners at State and Regional level requires permanent reviewing and evaluation of existing Action Plans, but municipal level of authorities and social welfare sector have to be more involved in the whole process in order to increase the chances for VoHT to re/integrate into the society.
- It is recommended that future researches include the opinions of VoHT on protection programs, as well as on individual plans and programs of re/integration.



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