



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE:** February 7, 2024

**Free Webinar on Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act to Reduce Root Causes of Forced Migration and Break the Link with Human Trafficking**

The [Alliance to End Human Trafficking](#) (AEHT) and the [National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd](#) (NAC) are hosting a webinar titled, *Breaking the Link Between Human Trafficking and Forced Migration: Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act*. This event is scheduled for Monday, February 12, from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm EST and aims to empower NAC and AEHT members, advocates, and the general public to understand and tackle the interconnection between human trafficking and forced migration.

**Free Webinar Open to the Public**  
***Breaking the Link Between Human Trafficking and Forced Migration:  
Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act***  
**Monday, February 12, 2024 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm EST**  
[Register Here](#)

Human trafficking, a global crisis, is often fueled by forced migration, where the most vulnerable have limited or nonexistent options. This webinar will shed light on the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2023 ([H.R. 5856](#)), a critical piece of legislation offering systemic solutions to cut traffickers' supply lines by eliminating the root causes and helping migrants remain in their home countries. The Act focuses on providing international humanitarian assistance in food security, housing, employment, education, and healthcare in those local communities.

The webinar's panelists include Kwami Adoboe-Herrera, a member of the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking, along with Sister Maria Orlandini, OSF, from the Franciscan Action Network, and Mary Vigil of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The panel will discuss the specifics of H.R. 5856 and its impact on mitigating forced migration.

“NAC and the Alliance are pleased to support the bipartisan Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2023, or H.R. 5856, as part of a multi-

pronged legislative strategy against human trafficking. In particular, this seminal bill includes provisions addressing the root causes of forced migration. Let's break the link," said Fran Eskin-Royer, Executive Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

"One of the first defenses against human trafficking is stopping it before it begins, which often is here in the U.S. and on the arduous journey migrants make to arrive at our border. So, prevention truly starts at home before a person feels forced to uproot his or her life. Believing they can find their own dreams in their own home countries will reduce forced migration and save children, women, and men from being trafficked," said Eskin-Royer.

"By joining forces with NAC for this important webinar, we're not just sharing knowledge—we're building a powerful coalition for action against these global injustices," said Katie Boller Gosewisch, the Executive Director of AEHT. "We're deeply committed to cutting through the complexities of trafficking and migration, driving forward systemic reforms."

This event is the first webinar of a three-part series focused on advocacy to break the link between human trafficking and forced migration by AEHT and NAC. To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/HTandFMWebinar1>.

**About AEHT and NAC:**

*AEHT and NAC are dedicated to eradicating human trafficking through advocacy, collaboration, and education. They work tirelessly to bring awareness to the issue and support legislative measures that protect and empower the most vulnerable in society.*

*[Alliance to End Human Trafficking](#) was founded in 2013 by a group of Catholic Sisters committed to ending human trafficking and supporting survivors. They created a national network of resources and support that includes many different congregations of women religious and mission-aligned partners. Today, this member-based organization has grown to include more than 115 congregations and another 100+ individuals and organizations spread throughout the United States. AEHT is also the U.S. member of Talitha Kum, the international network of consecrated life working to end human trafficking.*

*[The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd](#) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, survivors of human trafficking, survivors of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations. NAC reflects the spirituality, history and mission of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (better known as the Sisters of the Good Shepherd). The sisters and their agencies work in solidarity with the disenfranchised – particularly families, women and children – who often are forgotten, left-behind or dismissed.*

###