RISE UP AND ACT . . . THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

FIGHTING THE CRIME OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

“Whatever the church says, whatever the church does, is done in the name of God for the sake of human dignity and for the eternal destiny of the human being. It is impossible for the church to close its eyes to evil, to be indifferent to the cry of the needy, the oppressed, and the exploited. True faith is a source of permanent struggle against the powers of inhumanity.”

These words were spoken by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in his address to those gathered during a Modern-Day Slavery forum, hosted by the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Distinguished practitioners, policymakers, theologians and scholars gathered for the purpose of bringing context and understanding of how the church can rise up against Human Trafficking in all its’ forms. The foundation of these forums was our Orthodox belief in fundamental human rights and protection of human dignity. A declaration was established with the goal of showing our church how to act against this injustice.

Isaiah 61:1-4 created a foundation for these forums. We see how God looks at His longing for a world as it could be. God loves and pursues justice and mercy. The use of “Righteousness” in this verse gives the idea that justice is right living, doing the right thing, going the right way. It is the picture of restoring what is broken, of challenging that which does the breaking, of bringing healing to those who are hurt.

Be on the lookout for our new Facebook page to participate in opportunities to support the cause against defeating the crime of human trafficking! More information to follow!

“Lord, free the captives. Remember those in mines, in exile, in harsh labor, and in every kind of affliction, necessity, or distress . . . For You, Lord, are the helper of the helpless, the hope of the hopeless, and the savior of the afflicted.”

(From the Liturgy of St. Basil)

Defeat Human Trafficking Ministry
Awareness is Our Weapon
Sources used to help write the September 2020 Dynamis entry:

https://endinghumantrafficking.org/podcast/143/


https://www.patriarchate.org/-/communiqu-forum-on-modern-slavery-held-at-the-phanar