



Trafficking in women for the purpose of sexual exploitation



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ABSTRACT

Trafficking in persons is considered to be the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or a position of vulnerability or of giving or receiving payments or benefits to obtain consent for a person to have control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. The choice of this theme is justified because it provides a focus on an invisible crime. The general objective of this work is to present an analysis of the trafficking of women for sexual exploitation, dealing with the concept of this crime, the challenges to identify the people involved and the understanding of this inhumane crime. Specifically, the objective was to investigate the phenomenon of trafficking in persons, identify the profile of the main victims, highlight the means most used by traffickers, in addition to presenting the main measures that must be taken so that national and international authorities can face this type of crime efficiently, in addition to what they can do to prevent and effectively confront it. Human trafficking is the third most profitable illicit business in the world, after drugs and weapons. This practice occurs in all countries, with women, children and adolescents as the main victims. The countries most affected by human trafficking for sexual exploitation are those marked by poverty, political instability, and economic inequalities. The methodology used for the construction of this work was a bibliographical, documentary and descriptive study, with an inductive method where emphasis was placed on authors who have authority and renown on the subject studied. It is concluded that, although there has been an evolution of the Brazilian legislation for trafficking in persons, inserting this practice in the list of crimes against individual freedom, going through a new treatment that reveals the concern with the protection and promotion of human rights, in addition to respect for the principle of human dignity, much still needs to be done in the actions to confront this crime.

Keywords: Trafficking in Women, Sexual Exploitation, Brazil.

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INTRODUCTION

Human trafficking, particularly for sexual exploitation, is a criminal issue that, despite being old, has gained alarming proportions in contemporary times, mainly due to globalization. Women, girls and adolescents are the main victims, attracted by false promises of a better life. It is estimated that more than 4 million people are trafficked annually in the world, with 53% destined for sexual exploitation and 40% for forced labour (UNOCD, 2018). Souza (2018) points out that human trafficking generates an annual profit of 32 billion dollars, surpassing drug trafficking. The 2014 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons shows that this crime affects all countries and victimizes mainly women and children. The 2020 Report confirms that women remain the main victims, with half of global victims being adult women and a third children.

The fight against human trafficking is supported by Law No. 13,344/2016 and human rights legislation, as well as NGOs, airport campaigns and media that address the issue. Feminists also play a crucial role in the fight against trafficking in women. Trafficking investigation can be reactive, when based on immediate denunciations, or proactive, based on strategic information. However, the effectiveness of Brazilian public policies in combating trafficking is questioned, especially due to the use of the internet and media to entice victims.

The study proposes that the dissemination of information about the consequences of trafficking through the main media and social networks, in addition to strict compliance with the laws, can contribute to the prevention of this crime. The relevance of the study lies in the need to deepen the understanding of trafficking in persons, particularly women, in order to foster new public policies and strategies to combat it. The methodology used was a bibliographic, documentary and descriptive study, focusing on works and documents specialized in the theme.

This approach is organized in two chapters, the first of which addresses the historical evolution of trafficking in persons and its legal regulation, with emphasis on Law No. 13,344/2016; the second chapter discusses the trafficking of women for sexual exploitation in Brazil, trafficking modalities and the Palermo Protocol. In the end, it is concluded that, despite the progress provided by the Palermo Protocol, Brazilian legislation still needs to intensify its actions, applying Law No. 13,344/2016 more severely to effectively combat this crime.

HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Human trafficking, present since the Middle Ages, gained notoriety with the great navigations, initially focused on slave labor and sexual exploitation of enslaved women. This crime was legally recognized in the nineteenth century and, to this day, it remains a global problem (FERREIRA, BORGES, 2017). In Brazil, human trafficking began at the time of colonization,

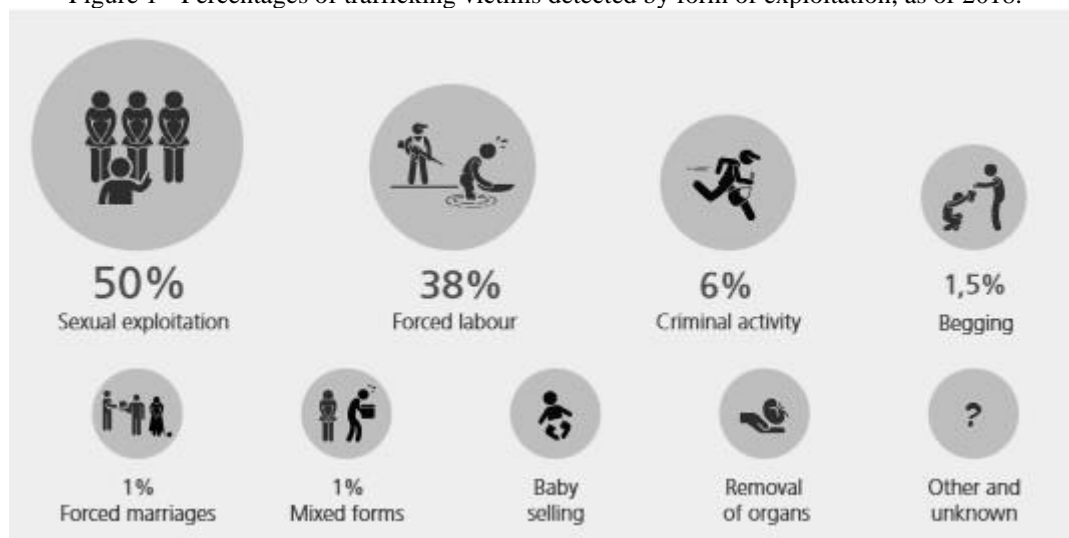
involving forced labor, domestic servitude, and sexual exploitation. Currently, other purposes include illegal adoption of children, servile marriage and trafficking of transvestites.

Trafficking in persons is a serious violation of human rights, standing out for its violence, offense to dignity, integrity and freedom, affecting mainly women (SILVA, 2018). Over time, trafficking has become more lucrative and complex, brutally victimizing millions of people globally, causing great concern (ANJOS ET AL., 2013).

In Brazil, the country plays an alarming role, being the largest "exporter" of women to the sex industry in First World countries and a "consumer" of slave labor (SIQUEIRA, 2013). In addition, Brazil is a transition territory with intense internal trafficking. This crime has gained prominence in global public policies, being a growing demand, especially after the establishment of the Palermo Protocol, which clearly defines trafficking in persons (SOUSA, 2016).

According to Piovesan and Kamimura (2013), 800,000 people are trafficked internationally per year, with more than 4 million trafficked globally, mainly for sexual and forced economic exploitation, with women and girls being the main victims, as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1 - Percentages of trafficking victims detected by form of exploitation, as of 2018.



Source: UNODC national data collection.

More recent data from UNODC (2018) indicate an increase in sexual exploitation to 50% and forced labour to 38%, with women continuing to be the most affected.

In view of these data, it is crucial to analyze the evolution of international and Brazilian laws in the fight against trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women for sexual exploitation.

LEGAL REGULATION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

Trafficking in human beings involves the recruitment, transportation, and housing of persons through the use of force, threat, or other forms of coercion. Victims are often removed from their cities or countries under deceptive promises of better opportunities, often employment (SIQUEIRA,



2013). This phenomenon, which dates back to the time of slavery, has as its main victims women, who are often sexually exploited or forced into degrading work (REIS, NASCIMENTO, 2020; SILVA, 2018).

Historically, international legislation on trafficking in persons began with the Treaty of Paris of 1814, which focused on trafficking in black persons (LOPES, 2017). Over time, the focus expanded to include women and children, especially with the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Minors in 1921, which replaced the term "trafficking in white women" with "trafficking in women and minors" (SILVA, 2018).

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) of 1948, and the International Covenants of 1966, resulted in significant progress in the protection of human rights, influencing international legislation on trafficking in persons (ANONNI, CORREIA, 2016). In 1949, the Convention for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Pimping brought to light the need for legal protection against sexual exploitation and other types of servitude (LOPES, 2017; SILVA, 2018).

The Palermo Protocol of 2000, considered the main instrument to address trafficking in persons, introduced a comprehensive concept that includes sexual exploitation, forced labor, and organ harvesting (UN, 2000). He highlighted the need for a comprehensive approach to prevent trafficking, punish traffickers and protect victims, especially women and children, who are the most vulnerable (MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, 2002).

The Palermo Convention brought a new perspective to international law, consolidating the importance of human dignity in the fight against trafficking in persons (RAINICHESKI, 2014; FERREIRA, BORGES, 2017). It is estimated that there are currently about 21 million victims of forced sexual exploitation, especially in Brazil, which exports a significant number of women to Europe for the purpose of sexual exploitation (ILO, 2017).

Finally, Ferreira and Borges (2017) emphasize that the fight against trafficking in persons requires an interdisciplinary approach that encompasses human rights, legislation, and gender issues, and must involve popular movements, academics, politicians, and the victims themselves. Legislation alone is not enough; Joint action between society and states is needed to effectively combat this crime.

LEGAL REGULATION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS: BRAZIL – EVOLUTION

Human trafficking has been occurring in Brazil, as already mentioned in a previous topic, since the time of slavery, in which it remained for a long time throughout history. Due to its alarming situation, with a growing number of victims, it is necessary to adopt legal measures to confront it, not only at the international level. It is important, therefore, to emphasize that the discussion of this

theme in the Brazilian scenario has evolved since the time of colonization (REIS; NASCIMENTO, 2017).

In the Criminal Code of the Empire of Brazil, of 1830, prostitution was not a problem, although women who exercised this activity were already poorly regarded by society (VENSON; PEDRO, 2013).

At the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, prostitution was considered a threat to the body, family, marriage and work. Prostitution was seen by society as a disease and became the target of prophylaxis plans. Prostitutes were persecuted because they were considered a nuisance to civilization (VENSON; PEDRO, 2013). This was the phase of moral panic.

It is also worth mentioning that, according to Venson and Pedro (2013), Brazil adhered to the International Treaty for the Elimination of the White Slave Trade. In the Criminal Code of the Empire of Brazil of 1830, prostitution was not considered a problem, despite the fact that there was a devaluation of the people who exercised this activity. Thus, prostitution was not seen as a degrading condition, an immoral activity, or a case of slavery, but rather as a result of an economic system that offered few advantageous alternatives for women.

Law No. 3,353/1888 was approved in Brazil, declaring slavery extinct in the country. The well-known Golden Law of 1888, in which Princess Isabel abolished slavery, had the objective of containing the slave trade to Brazil and freeing those slaves who were already in the country. However, even today, our legislators need to meet with local and international authorities to produce a series of measures to prevent and repress human trafficking (VELHO et al., 2017).

In this sense, Venson and Pedro (2013) emphasize that in *Anotações teórico-práticas ao Código Penal de Antônio Bento de Faria*, published in 1929, one of the first concepts of trafficking in Brazilian legislation is presented. The author explains that the trafficking of women was studied by the French government, which organized an international conference in Paris in 1902, in which Brazil participated. This conference, chaired by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, led to the creation of the International Treaty for the Elimination of the White Slave Trade in 1904.

In 1940, after the Afonsine, Manueline and Philippine Ordinances came into force in Brazil, followed by the Criminal Code of the Empire in 1830, the Republican Penal Code of 1890 and the Consolidation of Criminal Laws of 1932, a new Brazilian Penal Code was elaborated, when, for the first time, trafficking in persons gained its specific article, being placed as a pimping modality. In summary, although a number of modifications have been negotiated and conquered, the definition of trafficking that makes up the updated Penal Code is not so different from those of the 1940s. The definition of trafficking continued to be provided for in article 231 of the Penal Code of 2016 and makes up the part that deals with crimes against sexual dignity (VENSON, 2017).



In historical terms, positive Brazilian law has sought to be adapted to international standards, especially when such regulations concern the protection of human rights. "In these acceptances of the conventions and agreements signed, they happen when the government observes that such norms will benefit the whole society" (LOPES, 2017).

It was only in the face of a situation in which the rates of trafficking in persons increased significantly that international organizations such as the UN, Human Rights, ILO and others woke up to the need to influence countries to make their legislation stricter to combat this practice of human rights violations (LOPES, 2017).

The first Republic in Brazil was based on the structure of coronelismo and, in this intent, the Penal Code of 1890 was created in the midst of popular dissatisfaction, with the objective of breaking the disorder that reigned in this period, promoting a greater discipline of society.

In 1915, through Law No. 2,992, of September 25, the wording of the Penal Code was rearranged, bringing for the first time in the Brazilian legal system a new definition of trafficking, within article 278 in play with article 277, penalizing those who facilitated the prostitution of others.

Paragraph 1 of article 278 talked about misleading women with their displacements for prostitution, even if they have their consent (VENSON, 2017).

Article 278 of the Penal Code (BRASIL, 1940) establishes penalties for various forms of sexual exploitation. It prohibits maintaining or exploiting houses of prostitution, allowing people to gather in their residence for libidinous purposes, and inducing women into prostitution through abuse, intimidation, or threat. It also punishes those who assist or facilitate the trade of prostitution, with prison sentences of one to three years and a fine. In addition, it provides punishments for those who entice, attract or force women, minors or adults, virgins or not, to prostitute themselves through threat, violence or other means of coercion, including debt retention. The penalties are the same as those mentioned above.

This wording brought elements that characterize the practice of trafficking, presenting the verbs entice, attract, mislead, predicting the lasciviousness of others (people of both sexes), girls, in addition to citing means of coercion. In addition, it brought a more severe punishment than that provided for in the previous law.

Thus, it should be clarified that the practice of prostitution does not constitute a crime in Brazil and, as Venson (2013) comments, prostitution itself and the purchase of this service are not criminalized, but any type of help or facilitation is discouraged. This mixture of permits and prohibitions seems to be a strategy to meet the same conflicting demands of the nineteenth century, which revolved around the view of the prostitute as both a "passive victim" and a "transgressor of morality".



In 1940, a new Brazilian Penal Code was drafted when, for the first time, human trafficking gained its specific article, being placed as a modality of pimping.

Article 231 of the Penal Code, of 1940, understood that "To promote or facilitate the entry, in the national territory, of a woman who comes to exercise prostitution there, or the exit of a woman who is going to exercise it abroad. Penalty – imprisonment, from three to eight years." (BRAZIL, 1940).

In this chronology, in 1949, the Convention and Final Protocol for the Suppression of Trafficking in Human Beings was approved in New York. Brazil signed this Convention in 1951, however, its entry into the Brazilian legal system only took place in 1958, the year in which Legislative Decree No. 6 was promulgated (LOPES, 2017).

It is important to mention the International Convention for the Protection of Victims of War, better known as the Geneva I Convention of 1957, which was also signed by Brazil through Decree No. 42,121, of August 21, 1957. This Convention aimed to give greater scope to the fight against trafficking in persons. This international treaty included in its text the expression "practices analogous to slavery", which ranges from debt bondage to situations of forced marriage in exchange for economic advantage (LOPES, 2017).

Decree No. 42,121, of August 21, 1957, which deals with the International Convention for the Protection of Victims of War (Geneva Convention), was also important, as it confirmed the importance of member countries, to which Brazil was a party, to establish administrative measures to modify practices related to slavery, as well as to define as a crime this and other conducts related to the transportation of people from one country to another and the deprivation of their freedoms (IGNACIO, 2018).

After 42 years, in 1998, the Statute of the International Court began to understand sexual slavery and forced prostitution as a crime against humanity. As a result, the UN General Assembly created an intergovernmental committee to draft a global international convention against these crimes that affect human rights and to examine the possibility of developing an instrument to address all aspects related to trafficking in persons. Then, in 1999, he presented a proposal that was intensely discussed and ultimately approved as the Palermo Protocol, through which trafficking in persons became a transnational organized crime (IGNACIO, 2018).

On this topic, Silva (2018) asserts that, recognizing that transnational crime is a threat to democratic institutions and the international order, the international community has worked to harmonize legal norms related to transnational organized crime. This is done through an international Convention that provides the legal tools necessary to address this disorder in the international system.



In this way, it is observed how international cooperation in the fight against organized crime is an essential tool for expressing one of the structural principles of contemporary international law, which translates into the need to cooperate.

Like other countries, Brazil has developed technical cooperation projects in the field of human trafficking. The first project was a joint project between the government (Ministry of Justice) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime - UNODC, in the years 2002 to 2005 (QUAGLIA, 2002). This project initiated the Program to Combat Human Trafficking in Brazil. At that time, they occurred in four states of the country as main focuses, namely, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, because in this period they had them as major centers of departure through international airports, and in Goiás and Ceará, where trafficking was more intense. The objectives of this program were to promote the growth of public awareness about trafficking in human beings and to strengthen institutional capacity to address the problem (QUAGLIA, 2002).

It is important to mention that, with the approval of Law No. 11,106, of March 28, 2005, there were important changes in Brazilian criminal legislation with regard to trafficking in persons. One of these changes was that of article 231 of the Penal Code, amended to cover the international trafficking of women, in addition to replacing the word women with person (QUAGLIA, 2002).

Regarding the changes brought about by Law No. 11,106/05, Sifuentes (2019) emphasizes that Law No. 11,106/2005 divided article 231 into two, namely, article 231, which deals with international trafficking in persons, and article 231-A, which addresses internal trafficking in persons. The term "intermediate" was added, but this did not significantly change the interpretation, as it was already understood that intermediation was included in the concept of "promote". Internal trafficking is now more clearly defined, specifying activities such as recruitment and transportation of people into prostitution. The profit requirement was eliminated, and the fine was added to the penalty, regardless of whether the trafficking was profitable. If the crime is committed with violence, serious threat or fraud, the penalty is especially increased.

At the end of 2006, the Ministry of Justice's second project was signed with UNODC, which aimed to control trafficking in persons and expand the national capacity to deal with this trafficking and the resulting human rights violations (QUAGLIA, 2002).

In Brazil, the National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons, approved on October 26, 2006, through Decree No. 5,948, understands trafficking as a crime and offers an approach and assistance to victims. In the first national plan, there are three axes that are prevention, care and protection. In the background, lessons learned from the first cycle with five operational lines were discussed. And, finally, the third plan has 58 goals aimed at prevention, repression of human trafficking in the national territory, accountability of perpetrators and attention to victims.

In Brazil, State policies are focused on facing internal and external problems, with the objective of improving the collection and interpretation of statistics, considering the hiring of consultancies, containing for their promotion a vast research and participatory work process of professionals trained to develop this theme in Brazil and abroad (SILVA, 2018). Thus, attention to victims and the number of investigations is expanded.

A few years after the enactment of Legislative Decree No. 5,015/2004, which internalized the Palermo Protocol in Brazil, Law No. 12,015/2009 was enacted, which amended the Brazilian Penal Code, modifying the wording of article 231 and including article 231-A; these articles were part of Title VI of the Penal Code (Crimes against sexual dignity). However, without conforming to international legislation, such legal provisions, when in force, were already outdated, penalizing human trafficking only for the purpose of sexual exploitation (LOPES, 2017).

Despite the large number of legal changes, these were relevant to confronting the crime of human trafficking. The definition of trafficking that makes up the current Penal Code was changed in 2016, through Law No. 13,344/2016, resulting from a bill by the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry - CPI on Trafficking in Persons, which worked in the Senate in 2011 and 2012. This law revoked articles 231, 231-A of the 1940 Code, thus bringing a new text of law for the typification of trafficking for internal sexual exploitation that became "To promote or facilitate the entry, in the national territory, of someone who will exercise prostitution or other form of sexual exploitation therein, or the exit of someone who will exercise it abroad." Thus, the verbs about the commission of this crime were expanded.

In historical terms, positive Brazilian law has sought to adapt it to international standards, especially when such regulations concern the protection of human rights. "In these acceptances of the conventions and agreements signed, they happen when the government observes that such norms will benefit the whole society" (LOPES, 2017).

In this context, Velho et al. (2017) argue that, before Law No. 13,344/2016, which aligned Brazilian legislation with the Palermo Protocol, human trafficking in Brazil was restricted to prostitution and sexual exploitation. Articles 231 and 231-A of the Penal Code of 1940, which were repealed by the new law, defined trafficking in two forms: Article 231 dealt with the promotion or facilitation of the entry of people into Brazil for prostitution, and the second form addressed the sending of people abroad for the same purpose.

Over time, with the increase in globalization and migratory flow, several other measures were adopted. Currently, several researches, committees and cooperation agreements are formed to try to curb the practice of human trafficking, both in Brazil and in other countries (VELHO ET AL., 2017).

Brazil, as a country with a significant number of families in extreme poverty, has many people in vulnerable situations. Many of these people have lost hope of having a better quality of life

and end up being carried away by proposals from malicious third parties who, in a deceptive way, promise them work or opportunities abroad, thus favoring human trafficking (LOPES, 2017).

Currently, the legal system that deals with trafficking in persons in Brazil is Law No. 13,344/2016. The changes brought about by this law were quite significant to curb crime in the Brazilian scenario, while the Penal Code almost completely changed the criminal type, making the punitive hypotheses more comprehensive, in the criminal procedural rules the main changes related to the forms of investigation of the crime (LOPES, 2017).

Due to its multidimensional character, it should be emphasized that Brazil must be concerned not only with its norms in the legislative sphere, but also promote negotiations in the political field, strengthening the articulations between federative entities, internal and external bodies with the performance of professionals from different areas, united to face this problem.

LAW NO. 13,344/2016

Law No. 13,344, of October 6, 2016, introduced significant changes in the fight against trafficking in persons in Brazil, aligning with international treaties and promoting the protection of human rights. This legislation was received with great hope, being highlighted by the legal community for its relevance in protecting the victims of this crime (SIFUENTES, 2019).

The law brought measures to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons, both domestically and internationally, and was drafted in line with the Palermo Protocol (LOPES, 2017). Articles 4 to 6 specify the methods of prevention, repression and protection of victims. Article 4 emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary public policies and the participation of civil society for the prevention of trafficking in persons. Article 5 highlights the strategic cooperation between the Judiciary and Executive Branches to combat crime, while Article 6 details the forms of protection for victims, including legal, social, and health assistance, among others.

The legislation also brought changes to the Foreigner Statute, allowing the granting of permanent residence to victims of trafficking and their families, through article 7, which included article 18-A in the statute. There were also changes in the Code of Criminal Procedure, in articles 13-A and 13-B, which facilitated access to registration information and the location of suspects or victims, respecting the confidentiality of communications according to the Federal Constitution (LOPES, 2017).

In addition to expanding the concept of trafficking in persons to include various types of exploitation, Law No. 13,344/2016 strengthened the mechanisms to combat trafficking and highlighted the need to care for victims (SOUZA ET AL., 2020). The legislation is complemented by Ordinance No. 87, of March 23, 2020, which simplifies the return to the country of origin of foreigners who are victims of human trafficking and the residence permit in Brazil (SOUZA et al., 2020).

Law No. 13,344/2016 represented an important advance in Brazilian legislation, promoting international cooperation and combating trafficking in human beings, in addition to establishing the National Day to Combat Trafficking in Persons, on July 30, according to article 4, and establishing national campaigns against trafficking in persons (VELHO ET AL. 2017).

Finally, this law not only aims to prevent human trafficking, but also to promote the dignity of victims and hold traffickers accountable.

TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN BRAZIL

Trafficking in persons, without a doubt, goes back to in-depth discussions due to its seriousness and the characteristics of deprivation of liberty and various forms of exploitation, involving commercial and sexual. Today, in Brazil, it is a topic of relevant importance, either because of the number of cases that occur, or because of what Brazilian people suffer abroad.

Worldwide, according to a UNODC report (2018), 72% of human trafficking cases are women, with 21% composed of men and 7% of boys. Considering the number of women, 83% are trafficked with the aim of being used for sexual exploitation, 13% are destined for forced labor and 4% have various purposes. With regard to male victims, 82% are destined for forced labor, 10% are for sexual exploitation, like most women, and only 1% is used for organ removal, leaving 7% that are dispersed for other purposes.

In Brazil, according to the National Council of the Public Prosecutor's Office (2014), in the period between 2000 and 2013, a total of 1,758 people were trafficked, reaching a higher number of women when it comes to sexual exploitation. In 2016, 173 people were victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitation, of which 122 were female and 4 male, with another 47 without gender identification. In the period 2018 and 2019, 184 people were trafficked, 30 of whom were children. Numbers that may be higher, because in 2018, 80 thousand people disappeared in Brazil without having been located, according to the Brazilian Yearbook of Public Security. There are records of 226 disappearances per day in Brazil.

In the period 2000-2013, 1,758 people were trafficked. Among the main reasons involving the trafficking of Brazilians are enticement for the purpose of emigration (100), negotiation of children (127), voluntary sending of children and adolescents abroad (9), slave labor (1,348), sexual exploitation abroad (8), international trafficking in persons (23), sexual exploitation in Brazil (37) and internal trafficking (24) (UNODC, 2018).

With the adoption of the definition given by the Palermo Protocol, Brazil internalizes this concept through the National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons, approved by Decree 5,948, of October 26, 2006. From then on, this crime began to be treated as State Policy.



Thus, this definition, in relation to actions of prevention, care and protection for victims, has become the central guideline with regard to the promotion of public policies to combat trafficking in women, although Anjos and Abrão (2013) have observed that, although the concept of trafficking in persons has advanced in the National Policy, Brazilian criminal legislation is not yet completely aligned with the Palermo Protocol. Despite several legislative changes, the law remains inadequate to cover all forms of trafficking provided for by the protocol.

The modality of trafficking in persons for sexual purposes also presents obscure concepts due to the diversity of exploitation, which can involve various criminal conducts related to rape, violent indecent assault, seduction and mediation for lasciviousness. However, when it comes to the trafficking of women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation, it is a crime that affects female children, adolescents and adults around the world.

In relation to sexual slavery, it occurs when prostitution is not a voluntary act, that is, there is the presence of another in order to profit from the sexual exploitation of the person who is prostituting himself. In this way, there is a fine line between these two institutes that must be correctly demarcated in legislation in order not to compromise the dignity of the person who by choice exercises prostitution and is marked by the social and cultural stigma verified in the country.

Observing the evolution of Brazilian legislation, it is clear that the complexity of the subject has caused some changes over time to better frame the transgressors and ensure greater protection for victims or potential targets for the commission of this crime.

Among the relevant causes for the occurrence of this practice, the International Labor Organization - ILO lists the absence of job opportunities due to the fact that Brazil is classified as a developing country, its territory is a favorable place to find potential women to deceive with promises of work (DIAS, 2005). Gender discrimination is another factor that reflects structural machismo that is characterized as male domination over women and causes an idealization of roles based on gender, producing positions that call women with a spectrum of inferiority, reflecting in various social spaces that naturalize these distinctions. Political, economic and civil instability, in conflict regions, and domestic violence are also reasons for greater female vulnerability.

Undocumented emigration makes some women submit to circumstances beyond their own will to be able to stay in the country, obeying their "masters", because they have no alternative. There is tourism for sexual purposes, where women are led to become employees in the local sex trade and, finally, the corruption of public officials and the existence of deficient laws that contribute to this current conjecture.

This crime, which involves gender issues, expands easily due to its complex and obscure nature and because it is a typical very lucrative illegal business, since, according to Torres (2012), it

has direct links with organized crime, money laundering, drug and arms trafficking. These conditions contribute to reaching devastating proportions for the countries that face this problem, causing numerous inconveniences to its victims.

Thus, the trafficking of women finds great difficulties in confronting it, due to the high occurrence, and there is still no exact proportion of records, considering that the numbers of victims reflect only those who managed to contact the authorities or report the offenders. In Brazil, internal policies need to be further strengthened for this confrontation and, with regard to external victims, even if we observe the emergence of some organizations that propose to rescue victims in other countries, what happens in the real field is a greater number of rescues of voluntary prostitutes who have repented or are irregular in their migratory processes.

It can be inferred, then, that in the Brazilian scenario, public policies, resulting from the very way gender issues were inserted in the agenda, due to their welfare character, with democratization and, mainly, the participation of feminist movements, some policies began to include gender issues, recognizing inequalities, with the aim of bringing autonomy and independence to women (FARAH, 2004).

Furthermore, the formation of the historical conjuncture of denial of social rights in the Brazilian State allows for a greater unleashing of the practice of the crime of trafficking in persons, whose profile of women victims is mostly composed of young and single, poor and without prospects (XEREZ, 2010).

Regarding Brazil's geographical position, it is a country recognized as a trafficking route due to its border strip with other countries, such as the State of Mato Grosso, which has 44 municipalities in the border region, which facilitates the execution of this type of crime, due to the difficulty of inspection and typification of criminal conduct (MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, 2012).

When dealing with the sexual exploitation of women in the context of human trafficking, their relationship of vulnerability is verified not only by the condition of gender, but by economic factors, thus envisioning that better opportunities guaranteed by the State would make it possible to reduce the occurrence of this practice, since it is allied to false promises of improving life. As has been warned, the Brazilian territorial extension favors this entry and exit of people in a clandestine way, making the process easier to evolve. However, it should be clarified that the characterization of the crime of trafficking in persons does not necessarily presuppose leaving the country of origin, because the victims can be identified as soon as they are at their national borders, thus preventing migration from occurring (MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, 2012).

In the field of International Relations, trafficking in women is still not seen as a priority and, therefore, has become one of the most growing transnational crimes, especially in underdeveloped countries (MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, 2013).

With regard to the perpetrators of trafficking crimes, the majority are men who can act in armed groups and other criminals, since trafficking is practiced in several stages that include enticement, recruitment, transportation, physical and psychic coercion of the victims to their factual exploitation, which therefore depend on a large number of people involved and, Currently, most recruiters are found on social networking sites where, little by little, they can gain the trust of their victims. In the case of minor victims, children are commonly kidnapped to promote the next steps of their criminal acts. The largest number of records occurs in the destination countries, which thus have high convictions of foreigners (MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, 2012).

Trafficking is also seen as a criminal relationship of violation of human rights that is difficult to elucidate the cases, however strict punishment of all perpetrators of the crime must be demanded, as well as the collaboration of society and more commitment and dedication of the State to, in this way, have positive actions, seeking to alleviate this situation.

Thus, it can be seen that the fight against human trafficking in Brazil depends on several factors, such as the public policies implemented and more clarification to the population, especially the vulnerable, so that they can identify the criminal strategies of the traffickers. Due to the lack of efficient control of the numbers of people trafficked in the country, due to the difficulty of collecting data, the State must act with more forceful initiatives, aiming to guarantee the human rights of Brazilians.

TIME WHEN BRAZIL BECAME CONCERNED ABOUT THE TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN

Brazil's slave-owning and colonialist origins facilitated the perpetuation of human trafficking, a practice that persisted even after the abolition of slavery in 1888, mainly due to immigration policy (MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, 2013). With globalization, the intensification of social inequalities and the increase in organized crime have highlighted the need for a more effective international fight, as highlighted by Carvalho (2020).

Brazil did not participate in the 1904 International Agreement for the Suppression of the Slave Trade in White Women, nor in the 1950 Convention for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Pimping (Cunha, 2019). However, the 1988 Constitution ensured the full protection of human rights, including life, liberty and personal security, despite the persistent violation of these principles, as evidenced by the trafficking of women for sexual exploitation (BRASIL, 1988; FAITHFUL; LEAL, 2002).

The visibility of the problem in Brazil increased after the ratification of the Rome Statute in 2002, which defined sexual slavery and forced prostitution as international crimes (NOVO, 2017). The Ptraf survey, coordinated by Maria Lúcia Leal and Maria de Fátima Leal, identified 241 human trafficking routes in the country, 131 of which are international. This study revealed that the main

victims were women from the lower classes with low education, which led to the creation of the National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons (LEAL; LEAL, 2002).

Despite efforts, such as the creation of the III National Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons in 2017, which had the cooperation of ministries, international organizations, and civil society, there are still challenges in the application and effectiveness of anti-trafficking policies. In addition, the UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (2009) highlighted that women are not only victims of, but also act as traffickers, playing a significant role in modern slavery (SECRETARIAT OF POLICIES FOR WOMEN, 2011).

The debate on human trafficking must continue to consider the moral, psychological and financial damage caused, and the Brazilian media has a crucial role in increasing the visibility of this crime, which is the third most lucrative in the world, behind drug and arms trafficking. Therefore, it is essential that Brazilian authorities, politicians and citizens take responsibility for preventing and combating trafficking in persons (COLARES, 2004).

MODALITIES OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Internal Trafficking in Persons

Human trafficking is a complex phenomenon that involves various modalities, such as sexual exploitation, slave labor, organ removal, forced begging, illegal adoption, and forced marriage. Although this study focuses on sexual exploitation, other purposes are also common in Brazil. Trafficking can occur within national boundaries (internal trafficking) or between different countries (international trafficking), and is highly lucrative for organized crime, only surpassed by drug and arms trafficking, according to UNODC data.

In 2002, Fernandes (2014) identified at least 241 trafficking routes for the sexual exploitation of women and adolescents, linked to the country's poverty rates, as shown in Table 1.

Chart 1 – Relationship between trafficking routes and poverty rates in Brazil.

Região de Origem	Internacional	Interestadual	Intermunicipal	Total
Sul	15	09	04	28
Sudeste	28	05	02	35
Centro-Oeste	22	08	03	33
Nordeste	35	20	14	69
Norte	31	36	09	76
Total	131	78	32	241

Fonte: LEAL; LEAL (2002).



Law No. 11,106/2005 introduced a distinction between international and domestic trafficking, amending the Penal Code to encompass these types of trafficking in persons, previously restricted to trafficking in women (MARCÃO, 2005). According to Pestraf (LEAL; LEAL, 2002), internal trafficking involves the movement of people from rural areas to more developed cities or regions, while external trafficking displaces victims from underdeveloped to developed countries.

The seriousness of human trafficking is recognized in the Brazilian Penal Code, with aggravating factors when it involves children, adolescents, the elderly, or crosses national borders. Victims are often deceived and enticed with promises of better conditions in more developed places (LEAL; LEAL, 2002).

In Brazil, the fight against trafficking in persons includes a series of laws, such as the Penal Code (Decree-Law No. 2,848/1940) and Law No. 13,344/2016, which address prevention, repression, and assistance to victims. Law No. 13,445/2017 established migration rules, offering expanded legal protection to victims, including the right to residence for those subject to human trafficking (BRASIL, 2017).

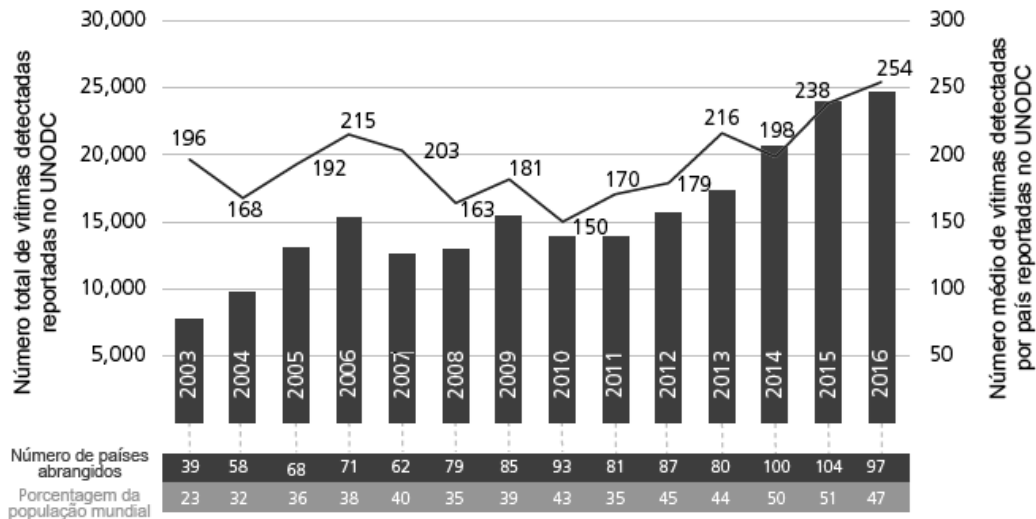
Inspection is conducted by the Federal Highway Police and state military police. The National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons (article 8, item I) delegates actions to combat trafficking in persons, without specifying responsibilities, leaving it up to state plans. Tavares (2018) highlights that the State is responsible for protecting human rights, creating laws that criminalize trafficking according to national needs, in accordance with international obligations.

In summary, the State has the responsibility to adopt measures to contain trafficking in persons, both domestically and internationally, and to implement public policies for the prevention of crime and the protection of victims.

International Trafficking in Persons

The differentiation between the different countries and regions of the world contributes to a growing increase in a migratory flow, with people seeking more dignified and profitable living conditions. However, the number of people in a situation analogous to slavery, as well as how many people are trafficked per year, is still unknown, with its calculations only in projections (SIQUEIRA, 2013). UNODC (2018) presents the projections in Figure 2.

Figure 2 – Trends in the total number of trafficking victims detected and reported to UNODC, average number of victims detected by country and number of reporting countries, by year, 2003-2016.



Source: UNODC (2018).

Profitability is also a subject that diverges between the entities that monitor this data, varying by region, but remaining, once again, only in the projections, according to data from UNODC (2018), in Table 2.

Table 2 – Projected profitability of international trafficking in persons.

Region	Profitability (in billions of dollars)
Not all world	31.600
Europe	12.000
Asia	9.700
Eastern Europe	3.400
Middle East	1.500
Latin America	1.300
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.159

Source: UNODC (2018).

The destination of trafficked persons, according to a UNODC report, presents a staggering, where sexual exploitation stands out (see Table 3).

Table 3 – Destination of trafficked people in the world, by form of exploitation, from 2018 onwards.

Destination	Percentage (%)
Sexual exploitation	50
Forced labor	38
Criminal activities	6
Other ways	3,5

Source: UNODC (2020).

In this regard, Costa (2008) points out that the similarity between human trafficking at the end of the nineteenth century and today is remarkable. Despite changes in routes, countries, and



historical contexts, grooming tactics, the dehumanization of people, the high profits of traffickers, and society's indifference remain constant and deepening.

Migration routes have shifted due to more lucrative offers, moving from North to South to the reverse, with destinations more common in developed countries, although trafficking is dynamic and subject to change (UNODC, 2018).

Brazil is an important "exporter" of women for sexual exploitation, standing out as the South American country with the highest number of trafficked women (SIQUEIRA, 2013). 110 Brazilian and 131 international routes were identified, with 32 destined for Spain (LEAL; LEAL, 2002).

In response to this crime, the international community has created rules to combat trafficking, such as the 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in force since 2003, and its complementary protocols: the Protocol on Trafficking in Persons, the Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants, and the Protocol Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Arms (UNITED NATIONS, 2000).

The investigation of human trafficking is the responsibility of the Federal Police, with the support of the intelligence service, the victims who report it, and the population that reports the crimes.

THE PALERMO PROTOCOL AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN BRAZIL

Trafficking in persons is a complex crime, whose prevention and identification are difficult due to its characteristics, requiring joint actions by the victims, the State, the authorities and the justice system.

The creation of the UN marked a new phase in the fight against international trafficking in women, initially focused on the safety of European women without clearly defining trafficking. Subsequently, the UN created the Palermo Protocol, approved by the General Assembly No. 55/255 on May 31, 2001 and in force since July 3, 2005, to complete the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. This Protocol introduced measures to protect the identity of victims, ensuring physical, psychological and social assistance, and the possibility of compensation. It also typifies human trafficking, which includes sexual exploitation, forced marriages, illegal adoption, and organ removal.

The Additional Protocol states that the victim's consent is not valid if coercive means are used. However, international conventions alone have not been enough to change the reality of trafficking, highlighting the need for integration between national laws, investigations, and public awareness.

In Brazil, the Penal Code, according to Decree-Law 2,848 of 1940, addresses human trafficking, but the laws still need to be updated to keep up with the evolution of the crime. In



addition, it is necessary to promote training for police officers, prosecutors, prosecutors, and judges, and to intensify public policies to ensure decent living conditions and reduce the social vulnerabilities that fuel trafficking.

MEASURES THAT BRAZIL HAS ADOPTED TO COMPLY WITH ARTICLE 6 OF THE PALERMO PROTOCOL

Article 6 of the Palermo Protocol mentions assistance and protection for victims of trafficking in persons. As it is an international treaty, at the national level it is necessary to adopt measures capable of ensuring the effectiveness of the document, including the proposal of compensation to the victims for the damages suffered.

As already mentioned, in 2006, the first National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons (PNETP) was approved, through the establishment of the Interministerial Working Group, a group of people responsible for preparing the proposal that presented the principles, guidelines and actions related to the fight against trafficking in persons.

This working group was made up of representatives of the Special Secretariat for Human Rights of the Presidency of the Republic, the Special Secretariat for Women's Policies of the Presidency of the Republic, the Special Secretariat for Policies for the Promotion of Racial Equality of the Presidency of the Republic, the Chief of Staff of the Presidency of the Republic, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Social Development and the Fight against Hunger, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labor and Employment, Ministry of Agrarian Development, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Tourism and Attorney General of the Union (LEAL; LEAL, 2002).

For the elaboration of the plan and the achievement of the objective portrayed in article 6 of the Palermo Protocol, the proposal was based on several international agreements on human rights and international technical collaboration, Brazilian laws and documentation from civil society organizations, substantiating the need to, in addition to the reprimand of crime, adopt viable alternatives to prevent cases, following the guidance of the National Secretariat of Justice of the Ministry of Justice, the Special Secretariat for Human Rights and the Special Secretariat for Women's Policies, aiming at implementation under the terms of the aforementioned protocol (BRASIL, 2008).

In the practical field, one can mention the work of the Ministry of Justice, through the Campaign to Combat International Trafficking in Human Beings, which took place in 2009, in the states of Goiás, Ceará, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, whose objective was to inform and instruct society, especially potential victims and their families, in order to prevent criminal acts related to human trafficking that may happen (ESTRELA, 2007).

This campaign used radio dissemination, posters and *banners* posted at airports and in the

superintendencies of the Federal Police. Leaflets were placed on the new passports issued, through pamphlets dispersed among the population, in places with a large flow of people and through condom holders donated to sex workers who had condoms, in addition to offering information about the prevention of enticement by criminal organizations of human trafficking and telephone numbers to report crimes of this nature (ESTRELA, 2007).

In this context, it should be added that the proper training of people from various areas is an unavailable element for the prevention and reception of victims of trafficking in persons, with legal professionals, and the establishment of a database with information linked to the National Integrated System of Information on Justice and Public Security (Infoseg) and of letters to combat and assist victims of trafficking in persons.

In 2017, the seminar "Challenges for Trafficking in Persons in Brazil" was extremely important for the dissemination of the ideals set out in the article under discussion. The seminar was attended by several sectors of the organization, including the International Labor Organization (ILO), the United Nations Development Program for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Through this campaign, it made it possible to obtain data to be used later in the Vienna Global Forum, which aimed to develop a common international action strategy, thus representing an instrument of great value at a global level (ESTRELA, 2007).

In 2019, the Ministry of Justice promoted a new National Campaign to Combat Trafficking in Persons, now with the participation of more states, including the cities of Belém, Belo Horizonte, Brasília, Fortaleza, Goiânia, Porto Alegre, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador and São Paulo, the latter corresponding to the location of the campaign. Regarding the methods of dissemination, it used formal means and the help of computerized means, with the use of electronic *displays* placed at the check-in counters of airports and clips demonstrated on electronic devices installed by the cities, which refer to dungeons, which refers to the precarious conditions experienced by individuals who are victims of human trafficking (BRASIL, 2008).

All these campaigns, and others not presented here, demonstrate the effective activity of the State in preventing trafficking in persons by raising society's awareness of its existence and its recurrence, as stipulated among the Government's duties in the National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

Knowledge and understanding of the legislative details about the National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons is important in the discussion of this topic, since it is the Brazilian document with the greatest authority on the subject, responsible for governmental changes from its elaboration to combat this criminal act, as it is possible to see, for example, in the formation of an Interministerial Working Group with the aim of creating the National Plan to Combat Trafficking in

Persons (LEAL; LEAL, 2002).

Among others, the measures adopted to combat trafficking in women, both at the international level, by the Palermo Protocol, and by the domestic legislation of several countries, including Brazil, also covered the fight against criminal organizations (KEMPADOO, 2015).

Under the pretext of curbing the exercise of such practice, discriminatory migration policies are approved that prevent some types of international migrations that could open spaces for the action of organized crime.

In this vein, Kempadoo (2015) states that the current global approach focuses more on the criminalization, punishment and control of immigration, rather than focusing on social justice and human rights, especially women's. Global structural issues that generate trafficking, such as globalization, patriarchy, racism, ethnic conflicts, environmental devastation, and political and religious persecution, are rarely addressed in the prevailing discourse on trafficking. These structural problems are essential for analysis, deconstruction, and effective combating of trafficking.

With regard to combating the negative repercussion with society's disgust to the victims of human trafficking, who are often blamed for facing this crime passively, it is necessary to guarantee their rights and these victims must be seen differently from those women who choose prostitution as a way of working and, thus, eliminate all forms of negative spectrum that may be offered to its non-criminal practice.

For information, in the Brazilian scenario, there is recognition by the Ministry of Labor and Social Security of the occupation of work as prostitution (MTE, 2002). Therefore, it is defined as a profession, even though it is not valued or morally accepted by society.

Throughout history, through the evolution and modification of the cultures of society, this recognition would facilitate the suppression of the connection between sexual exploitation, voluntary prostitution and trafficking in persons, which would present itself as an important step towards the identification of the true cases of violations of the dynamics of trafficking in persons that, they are generally ignored and devalued due to the government's difficulty in supervising, identifying, and proceeding in the face of each specific case, as well as the other purposes of human trafficking and the structural factors that justify the existence of this criminal act in society (SANTOS, 2019).

Historically, with the evolution and modification of the cultures of societies, this recognition would contribute to suppressing the connection that exists between trafficking in persons, trafficking for sexual exploitation, especially of women, and voluntary prostitution. Certainly, there would be a better clarification on the identification of cases involving violations of the human rights of victims of trafficking in persons, which are sometimes ignored and devalued, given the difficulties in monitoring, identification, and specific procedures (SANTOS, 2019).

The law that dealt with human trafficking until 2016 was limited only to sexual exploitation.

After this time, work analogous to slavery, illegal adoption, trafficking for the removal of organs and tissues and any type of servitude, including forced begging, in addition to servile marriage, common to Brazilian women abroad until the approval of Law No. 13,344, of October 6, 2016, were also included in the crime of human trafficking. known as the Trafficking in Persons Law (BRASIL, 2020).

With this new wording given to the criminal type, in order for the crime to be configured, it will be necessary to have combined proof of the acts, the means and the purpose, so that the three requirements are present at the time of the action. And even though the new edition of the Penal Code presents very positive points, some criticisms should be made.

Positively, the chapter dedicated to the protection and assistance to victims of trafficking, directly or indirectly, provides for legal and social assistance, shelter and temporary shelter, preservation of identity, social reintegration, humanized care, prevention of revictimization, in addition to the granting of the right to a permanent residence visa to victims of trafficking in persons who are in Brazil (BRASIL, 2020).

Another very commendable point is the provision for cooperation between the bodies of the justice and security system, national and foreign, and the formation of joint investigation teams. Also noteworthy is the inclusion of human trafficking in heinous crimes, with benefits granted only after 2/3 of the sentence has been served (BRASIL, 2020).

In addition, another point that should deservedly be highlighted is the benefit to the victims, even if they have given their consent, since if the victimizer uses any of the means mentioned in paragraph "a" of article 3 of the Protocol, this consent will not be considered (BRASIL, 2020).

However, negatively, the new text did not make the configuration of the crime of trafficking in persons more rigorous nor did it facilitate its investigation, despite the advance of its characterization that was previously obtained even with the consent of the victim and currently consent excludes typicality, following the Additional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on Prevention, Repression and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons.

From this perspective, in order to confront trafficking in women, it is necessary to analyze this problem from a broader conjuncture of exploitation for sexual purposes and migratory flows, where it is inserted. Thus, in order to reduce the profitability and attractiveness of human trafficking for criminal organizations, it is necessary to understand how migration restriction policies, such as migratory policies adopted by developed countries (which are generally considered as the countries of final destination, in which sexual or economic exploitation will occur), contribute to the worsening of the vulnerability or vulnerabilities of the victims.

Despite all that has already been done, Brazil still needs to evolve in its actions to combat



trafficking in persons, in order to contemplate all types of human trafficking, especially of women, in order to expand and guarantee assistance to victims as well as compliance with the laws related to this crime.

CONCLUSION

Human trafficking dates back to the Middle Ages, with the great navigations, starting due to wars and territorial disputes, passing through the practice of the black slave trade and then emerging with the trafficking of women for sexual purposes. In Brazil, it emerged in the Colonial Period, between the fifteenth and nineteenth centuries, and women were exploited in the most diverse ways by the colonizers, including sexual exploitation. Today, it is one of the three largest criminal collections in the world.

In an updated concept, human trafficking is an illicit act that uses any way to remove a person from his place of origin by coercion and similar means, as well as exploitation by any means, with or without profit, even with the consent of the victim.

The preferred victims of this type of trafficking are women and children, making up about 70% of all human trafficking worldwide, with poverty, economic and social inequalities, and migratory flows, among other reasons, as driving factors. This vulnerability favors constant changes in the *modus operandi* of grooming and has increasingly branched out in several countries.

The constant increase and expansion of this trafficking is frightening, making it difficult to monitor and confront it efficiently and accurately, as accurate data on the subject is difficult to obtain, considering that most victims do not dare to report it.

At the international level, the Palermo Protocol served as a normative framework and represented an important document in the fight against trafficking in persons, since it defined trafficking in persons for the first time, the concept of which was internationally accepted. The Palermo Convention and its Additional Protocols were signed by a total of 124 countries in 2000, but have 178 States Parties. These protocols have reinforced the need for Member States to include specific measures for the prevention of this trafficking and punishment of criminals, protecting the victims in their human and fundamental rights.

Regarding the evolution of the Brazilian legislation on trafficking in persons, it was possible to note that it is not limited only to the Penal Code and it should be noted that this crime is complex and multifaceted, as it covers social aspects. In this sense, the institution of Law No. 13,344, of 2016, framed human trafficking in the list of crimes against individual freedom and no longer against sexual dignity, undergoing a new treatment that reveals the concern with human rights and the dignity of the person.



Trafficking in women finds it very difficult to cope with, due to the high occurrence, and there is no exact proportion of records, given that the numbers of victims reflect only those who managed to contact the authorities or report the offenders.

In this sense, measures must be adopted and executed to confront trafficking, especially with regard to actions to prepare agents to welcome victims and assistance compatible with the delicate situation, emphasizing that these measures must be based on principles that do not violate human dignity and penalizing those who dare to do so.

It ends by highlighting that the path is difficult, however, it is a *sine qua non* condition that institutions, authorities and society in general put an end to it and seek to combat the crime of trafficking in persons, especially women, whether in Brazil or in any other country, safeguarding every human being and guaranteeing their fundamental rights, since Brazil proclaims itself as democratic under the rule of law and, therefore, has the obligation to protect and promote human rights and the dignity of all human beings.



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