



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF FINLAND
EVANGELISCH-LUTHERISCHE KIRCHE FINNLANDS
CHURCH COUNCIL
KIRCHENAMT

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Viite YK Ihmisoikeudet; OHCHR:n kysely koskien ihmiskaupan suuntaviivoja HEL 7849-88
Asia Vastaus YK:n ihmisoikeusvaltuutetun toimiston kyselyyn

Ulkoasiainministeriö
Ihmisoikeuspolitiikan yksikkö

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland has send to the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland an inquiry which the Ministry has got from OHCHR. The inquiry relates to the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking.

The inquiry includes three questions on whether and how the organization has used the Recommended Principles and Guidelines. The work of Church Council is more limited and focused, and the answer follows this line.

The Church Council has focused its role in anti-trafficking work on the prevention of trafficking and shares fully the point of Guideline 7 (Preventing trafficking) in that "strategies aimed at preventing trafficking should take into account demand as a root cause." The thinking behind this lies in the principles of human rights although the Church formulates it in a more spiritual language and talks about the dignity of every human being as the creation of God.

The Church Council has taken two main efforts in anti-trafficking work.

- 1) It has produced in Finnish a 50-page booklet about anti-trafficking work as a field of the churches. This has been disseminated to the local church workers, such as diaconal workers, pastors, educators, youth leaders, prison chaplains and military chaplains. The booklet is available in Finnish and Swedish in electronic format.

- 2) The Ecumenical Week of International Responsibility, in which the Lutheran Church is a major partner, has had the trafficking as the theme of 2008 and 2009. It has set up web sites and published tabloids about the theme and supplied the congregations with methods for anti-trafficking education. The Week operates in Finnish and Swedish.

The produced material has been disseminated very broadly all over the country, but the follow-up is limited to the dissemination.

Kansliapäällikkö



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