



Conclicting perspectives on what the problem is with trafficking

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The definition of trafficking in the Palermo Protocol

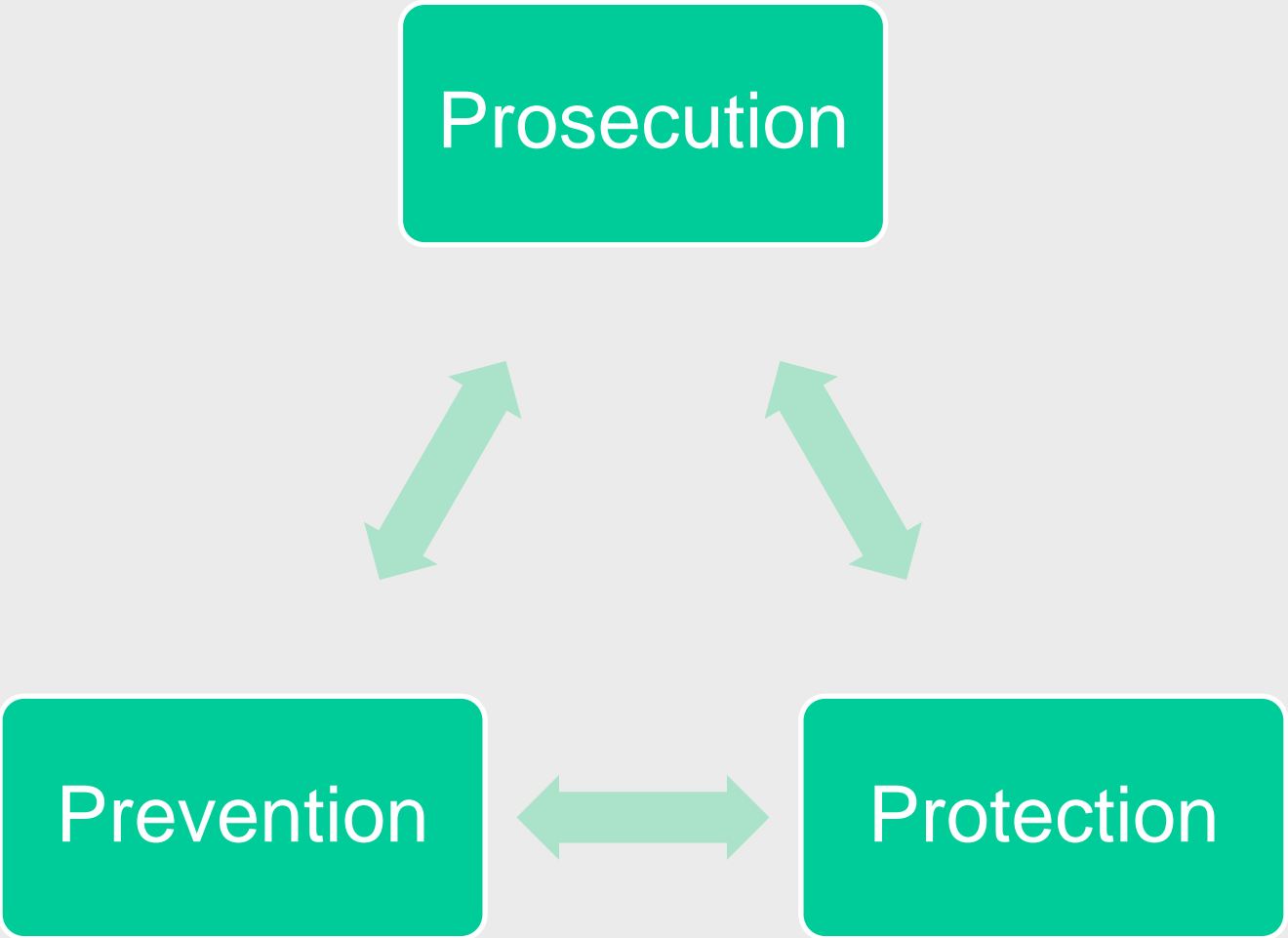
The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by **means** of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. **Exploitation** shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs

The different aims

The purposes of this Protocol are:

- (a) To **prevent** and **combat** trafficking in persons, paying particular attention to women and children;
- (b) To **protect and assist** the victims of such trafficking, with full respect for their human rights; and
- (c) To promote cooperation among **States Parties** in order to meet those objectives.

What to do about trafficking



Different actions

- Preventing trafficking
- Prosecuting traffickers
- Assisting victims
- Equals dealing with trafficking?

Causes of conflicts

- Competition for funding
- Conflicting interest
- Competition for attention

Different levels and agents come into focus

- International issues: Transnational legislation, transnational migration and transnational crime
- Nation states: The right to protect borders and local markets (social dumping)
- Groups: Discrimination as a cause of vulnerability
- Individuals: Victims or criminals

Possible conflicts between actions

Prosecuting vs. Prevention and Assistance

Visibility of the phenomenon and hindering recruitment

Finding victims through police work

Possible conflicts between actions

Prevention vs. Assistance and Prosecution

Nigerian example: showing off 'bad examples'

Possible conflicts between actions

- Assistance vs. Prosecution and Prevention

Making victims aware of their responsibilities of stopping the cycle

Access

The credibility of victims

On not signing the Council of Europe Convention on trafficking

- *A Home Office spokesman expressed support for the aims of the convention, but warned: "There are certain provisions which present difficulties for the UK and which remain under active consideration. The Convention contains measures which we believe **may actively encourage people traffickers** and may **place more vulnerable victims at risk**. We want to resolve these issues before taking a decision on signature (politics.co.uk)*

Other conflicts

- Between 'sending' and 'receiving' countries
 - Protection nationals
 - Protecting borders
- Between individuals and nation states
 - The rights of States - immigration
 - The rights if migrants – human rights
- Between the need for a strict definition and the need to protect exploited migrants.