

## CONSORTIUM PARTNERS

International Centre for  
Migration Policy Development

Lead: **Albert Kraler**

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La Strada International

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La Strada  
Czech Republic

Lead: **Marketa Hronkova**

## TARGET AUDIENCES

- Policymakers and Governments
- Researchers and Academics
- Activists and Campaigners

### Further Information:

[www.demandat.eu](http://www.demandat.eu)

### Contact:

Albert Kraler,  
ICMPD Co-ordinator  
ICMPD Headquarters  
Gonzagagasse 1, 5th Floor  
A-1010 Vienna, Austria

tel: +43 (0)1 504-4677-2345

email: [albert.kraler@icmpd.org](mailto:albert.kraler@icmpd.org)



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# Addressing Demand in Anti-Trafficking Efforts and Policies

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## Introduction

Trafficking in human beings covers various forms of coercion and exploitation of women, men and children. While responses to trafficking have traditionally focused on combating the criminal networks involved in trafficking or protecting the human rights of victims, European countries are increasingly exploring ways of influencing demand for the services or products involving the use of trafficked persons as well as the demand for trafficked persons as such. Demand-side measures have the potential to address some of the root causes of trafficking, and thus to contribute to its prevention. Analytically, a demand-side analysis has the potential to re-centre attention to those benefitting, and therefore bearing a degree of responsibility for, trafficking.

This major interdisciplinary project analyses efforts to reduce demand in a range of scenarios and draws on insights on regulating demand from related areas in order to feed into EU and national policy making to prevent trafficking.

## Methodology

The DemandAT project brings together a multi-disciplinary team of researchers with expertise across fields including migration, labour and regulatory studies to undertake research on demand in the context of trafficking in human beings. Running over 42 months, the research takes a comprehensive approach to investigating demand and demand-side policies by examining demand for different forms of trafficking. The research includes a strong theoretical and conceptual component through an examination of the concept of demand in trafficking from a historical and economic perspective. Regulatory approaches in policy areas that address demand in illicit markets are studied to develop

a better understanding of the impact that different regulatory approaches can have on demand. Debates on demand in different forms of trafficking as well as countries' policies are examined to provide a better understanding of policy options and policy impacts. Finally, the research also involves in-depth cases on particular fields in which trafficking occurs (domestic work, prostitution, globalised production of goods) and case studies of particular policy approaches (law enforcement and campaigns). Developing a better understanding of demand for trafficking in all its forms and the ways in which policy interventions may structure that demand will enable a better informed assessment of the potential for demand-side policies and efforts to assist in task of tackling trafficking in human beings.

The research is structured in three phases:

- **Phase 1:**  
Analysis of theoretical and empirical literature on demand for trafficking and regulating demand in different disciplines, fields and countries.  
Runs from January 2014 – June 2015
- **Phase 2:**  
Three in-depth empirical case studies on different fields on trafficking: domestic work, prostitution, imported goods. Two on different policy approaches: law enforcement actors and campaigns.  
Runs from September 2014 – December 2016
- **Phase 3:**  
Integrating project insights into a coherent framework with a focus on dissemination.  
January 2017 – June 2017

The DemandAT project is informed by continuous stakeholder interaction throughout.

## Objectives

DemandAT aims to **understand the role of demand** in trafficking in human beings and **assess the impact and potential of demand-side measures to reduce trafficking**.

We examine:

- The concept of demand in trafficking: what it is and how demand is seen in different forms of trafficking.
- The policy measures that steer demand for trafficking: what demand-side measures are available, how they impact on demand and what other options for steering demand may be available.
- The value of a demand/supply analysis of trafficking: whether demand is an adequate framework for understanding trafficking and what alternative or complementary framings could be useful.

## STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY BOARD

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