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With this quarterly newsletter, La Strada International wishes to inform and update you on developments in the field of trafficking in human beings and the activities of La Strada International and our member organisations. We welcome your feedback and input. Please [e-mail us](mailto:info@lastrada.org) by 1 June 2020 if you have news, information about your organisation, a new report or documentary or an outspoken opinion on (inter)national developments.

## La Strada News !

### Challenging times but our services continue

All 25 La Strada International member organisations follow the national safety restrictions related to the Coronavirus (Covid-19), while trying to ensure that services can continue



and that trafficked persons receive adequate assistance and information. Shelters run by our members remain mostly open but have become less accessible and assistance is reduced to a minimum. Some of our members reported a clear lack of protection gear, disinfectant and other products for protection needs. Much effort is taken to keep up protection standards to avoid virus infections, while consultations are now offered online. Helplines receive many questions from migrant workers who have lost their jobs and housing due to the restrictions and many have difficulties to access solidarity services (for food, daily shelter, etc.). Our members see that the current situation is especially problematic for migrant workers and advocate especially now for the improvement of the position of vulnerable workers. See the common LSI [statement](#) on the situation. See also the [statement](#) by our member organisation Anti-Slavery in the UK and [information](#) provided to vulnerable workers by our members Comensha and FairWork in the Netherlands, together with Dutch trade union FNV, as well as by [MRCI](#) in Ireland.

## FIZ

● Advocacy and support for migrant women and victims of trafficking

### FIZ combats negative effects of Corona crisis on sex workers

[FIZ](#), our member organisation in Switzerland established - with the support of the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) and together with Xenia, the Berne counselling centre for Sex Workers and the Swiss network Prokore - a coordination unit to combat the negative effects of the Corona crisis on sex workers in Switzerland. The organisations commonly aim to gather information about the situation and make this available to counselling services and to provide information for sex workers in various languages, next to finding immediate solutions and financial support for sex workers in regions, where no counselling services exist.

## Remedies for undocumented migrants



On 2 December 2019 La Strada International (LSI), the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) and Victim Support Europe (VSE) organised an event for MEPs on compensation and complaints mechanisms up actions; a [report](#) on this event as well as [blog](#) written by PICUM are now available. The 3 organisations have taken follow up actions, including letters to MEPs, to ensure adequate remedies are available for undocumented migrants. The advocacy focused on ensuring that new thematic EU funding (AMIF and EFS) will be made available for complaint mechanisms of undocumented workers.

## Justice at Last project finished; actions enhancing compensation access continue

The project [Justice at Last](#) – European action for compensation for victims of crime aimed to enhance access to compensation for trafficked persons and victims of related crimes. The project was implemented by [12 organisations](#) in 10 European countries and partly funded by the European Union's Justice Program (2014-2020), In December 2019, the project finished but La Strada International will continue its call for more access to compensation. Clearly, much more effort is still needed to address remaining bottlenecks, in particular also to ensure better cross border cooperation in compensation claims and execution of compensation awarded. The European action however already led to several positive results:

- **58** advocacy meetings, **8** press conferences and **10** public debates and roundtables were held partly in the framework of the common international awareness campaign;
- **1076** persons were trained, including lawyers, prosecutors, judges and NGO representative while **202** persons participated in exchange meetings;
- at least **321,278** persons were directly reached during the campaign activities, including **3219** media representatives.

An evaluation report of the project is available upon [request](#). The results of the [online stakeholders survey](#) on access to compensation – still available online – will soon be available.

## ASTRA advocates for independent Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings

This month, on 12-13 March 2020, our NGO member ASTRA organized a regional conference “[Importance of a National Rapporteur and Equivalent Mechanism on Trafficking in Human Beings](#)” in Belgrade, Serbia. The meeting was organised in the framework of the regional project Balkans Act Now! 3. The overall conclusion of the conference is that ‘Serbia should establish a National Rapporteur responsible for monitoring and reporting on the national trafficking situation and actions taken, which should be as independent as possible’. In the coming period, ASTRA will actively advocate for the establishment of such a National Rapporteur in Serbia.



## La Strada will celebrate its 25th anniversary this autumn

On 15 September this year, La Strada will celebrate its 25th anniversary. La Strada was launched in 1995 as a result of a trilateral anti-trafficking project, called La Strada. By 2001, it had grown into a network of nine members,

while since October last year the LSI Platform comprises 25 members in 21 European countries. La Strada International hopes to celebrate this anniversary with a public event and NGO Platform in the Netherlands in October 2020. More information will follow.

This year several LSI members will also celebrate their anniversaries, including La Strada Poland (25 years) and Open GATE in North Macedonia (20 years). Last year, our member organisation Comité Contre l'Esclavage Moderne (CEEM) celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary - see their recent published [anniversary report](#).

## What's going on ?

### Impact of Coronavirus on trafficked persons and vulnerable groups

To raise awareness about the huge impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) on various vulnerable groups, La Strada International issued a [statement](#) to call attention to the challenging situation of trafficked persons and those vulnerable to trafficking, exploitation and abuse, as well as call for targeted measures to ensure their protection and support and prevent their discrimination and unequal treatment. The current Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis is affecting all our countries and societies with most European States taking restrictive measures to prevent and limit the wide-spread of COVID-19 and mitigate the health risks for the population. It is especially now, in times of crisis, that inequality and discrimination heighten not only the risks of abuse and severe exploitation for those who are most vulnerable but place them at further risk of being exposed to the infection thus potentially becoming even a scapegoat for public health risks. *See also section 'what is on your mind' further below for actions and statements by others.*

### EU Gender Equality Strategy, outlining five-year plan of action



On March 5<sup>th</sup> 2020, the EC published its [Gender Equality Strategy](#) for the period 2020 – 2025, which presents policy objectives and actions towards a gender-equal Europe. Key objectives included ending gender-based violence; challenging gender stereotypes; closing gender gaps in the labour market; addressing the gender pay and pension gaps and achieving gender balance in decision-making and in politics. As one of the first deliverables of the Strategy, the

Commission will propose binding pay transparency measures by the end of 2020. In addition, the Commission calls on the Council to conclude the EU's accession to the Istanbul Convention and ensure a swift EU ratification and calls on the Member States to ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention. Another aim is to ratify and implement the ILO Convention to combat violence and harassment in the world of work, next to the implementation of other relevant EU legislation, like the EU Victims' Rights Directive. The issue of Trafficking in Human Beings is only shortly addressed in the Strategy, highlighting mainly that the vast majority of victims of trafficking in human beings are women, both in and outside the EU and are mostly trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation.

Unfortunately no mention is made of the vulnerability and severe forms of labour exploitation of women – and men – in other regular and irregular labour sectors, neither is the issue of vulnerability of (undocumented) female migrant workers clearly addressed. See also [PICUM's reaction to the Gender Equality Strategy](#).

## Consultation open for European Victims' Rights Strategy

The European Commission has launched a Roadmap on the upcoming [EU Strategy on Victims' rights](#). The new Strategy should strengthen cooperation and coordination between the relevant bodies/authorities; improve protection and support for victims (especially children, victims of gender-based violence/terrorism/hate crime, etc.) and make it easier for Victims of Crime to claim compensation. Feedback on the Victim Rights Strategy [can be provided](#) until April 2, 2020.

## EC appoints acting Head for Anti-Trafficking Coordination

The mandate of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator (ATC) finished on 29 February 2020. La Strada International had sent [letters](#) to DG Migration and Home Affairs asking for more information from the European Commission about the follow up to this mandate calling for a transparent procedure. While there is no news yet about a possible appointment procedure, the European Commission informed on March 10, that Mr Olivier Onidi, Deputy Director-General of DG Migration and Home Affairs will be the acting EU ATC. Mr. Onidi has been working on issues covering migration, fighting terrorism and border control. This year, the office of the EU ATC should work on the development of a new EU Strategy for THB, which was [announced](#) to be developed in the 4th quarter of 2020. Furthermore, the ATC office plans to publish a Third Progress Report. By the end of April, civil society organisations will receive a request for contributions to this report.

## New UN Special Rapporteur on Slavery appointed

On 13 March 2020, Mr. Tomoya (Tom) Obokata (Japan) was appointed for the Mandate of UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences. Mr. Obokata is a Professor of International Law & Human Rights at Keele University Staffordshire in the United Kingdom. In a letter, announcing his appointment, he mentioned that he will continue the work of the outgoing Special Rapporteur, and that successful implementation of the mandate depends on closer cooperation with relevant governmental, civil society/academic, inter-governmental and other stakeholders. La Strada International congratulates Mr. Obokata and hopes to cooperate closely with the new Rapporteur.



## ETUC reports: employers use data privacy rules to block trade unions organising

A survey published in March by the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) highlights the plight of workforce collectives to mobilise by reaching out to employees digitally and attempt to campaign for better working conditions and fair remuneration. While the GDPR laws were put in place to protect people from the power of corporations, ETUC states that instead corporations are misusing them now to protect themselves from people power. The trends highlighted in ETUC's report bring to light the recent challenges for trade unions to mobilise their networks as a result of workplaces refusing access to employee data under the pretext that it is forbidden by the GDPR. See [full article](#) published by BHRRC in the UK.

## Call for New UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons

A [call](#) for the selection of a new UN Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children has been published. Applications should be received by 15 April 2020. A new Rapporteur will be appointed at the 44th session of the Human Rights Council, scheduled to take place from 15 June to 3 July 2020.



This will mark the conclusion of the mandate (now second term) of the current Rapporteur, Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro. She is planning to present one more thematic report during her mandate. La Strada International would like to use this opportunity to already thank Maria Grazia Giammarinaro for her personal commitment and critical voice during her mandate and her general close cooperation with civil society, including La Strada International and member organisations.

## CEDAW Committee Elections

Elections for membership to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) are foreseen for June 2020, when the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the States Parties is planned. The Committee is composed of 23 experts of 'high moral standing and competence' in the field covered by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Eleven members will be elected – [out of 21 candidates](#) – to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 31 December 2020.

The former Dutch Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings, Mrs Corinne Dettmeijer is one of the candidates and LSI supports her candidacy.

For NGOs that want to get involved in the process, IWRAW Asia Pacific has developed an [Introductory Guide on the CEDAW elections](#), including information on the timeline for the 2020 elections, regional representation among candidates, and information for NGOs.



## EU campaign to tackle undeclared work



In March 2020, the EU announced a [#EU4FairWork](#) campaign which aims to tackle undeclared work. This campaign includes a range of activities such as inspections in sectors at risk; information sessions and visits to secondary schools and more. A [Week of Action](#) planned to be part of the campaign was postponed until further notice due to the Coronavirus.

## What's new ?

### FLEX reports on worker-driven social responsibility

In March our member FLEX in the UK published a new report, [Worker-Driven Social Responsibility: Exploring a New Model for Tackling Labour Abuse in Supply Chains](#). The report explores 'worker-driven social responsibility' (WSR) as a tool for ensuring decent work for outsourced, subcontracted and offshored workers and questions how it might work in different contexts. The WSR model seeks to improve workers' conditions by taking the lead from workers and their representative organisations in setting the terms and conditions of employment.

## La Strada Ukraine publishes reports on role of civil society and SOPs.

In 2029 La Strada Ukraine published two new thematic publications, which are now available online in English. The first publication is a research on the "[Changing Roles in a Changing World: An Analysis of the Role of CSOs in Combating Trafficking in Human Beings](#)". This research looks at the changes in the anti-trafficking field, reviews strategic partnerships and the role of public associations of Ukraine, as well as successes and challenges in preventing and combating trafficking in persons.

In addition, a translation is available of the [Standard Operational Procedures of Counselling, Cooperation and Support in cases of trafficking](#). These procedures were developed to ensure a unified approach to organising social service – telephone consulting – in consideration of international standards and national legislation as well as existing requirements and criterion to providing services to (presumed) trafficked persons and at risk groups. Both publications have been developed within the project on "Advocacy for strengthening the national anti-trafficking response and policy" supported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM Ukraine) and funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## Report on EU Businesses' Compliance with EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive



On the 17 February, the Alliance for Corporate Transparency launched a [report](#) on the basis of analysing information that companies disclosed on their environmental and societal risks and impacts following the requirements introduced by the EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive. 1000 companies were reviewed and

their data was analysed and placed in a database. Under the [EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive](#), large listed companies, banks and insurers in the EU are obliged to report information necessary to understand their policies, risks and impacts on sustainability matters. Implementation of the Directive is poor and more guidance for companies is needed, as well as monitoring, which has also been reported with the UK Modern Slavery Act and the French Due Diligence Act.

- The research showed that only **22 %** of the companies provided some information on their human rights due diligence process (despite 82.8% reporting a human rights policy), while **25.5%** of companies disclosed specific human rights risks facing them (out of 56.6% that acknowledge the existence of such risks).
- **14.6%** reported on the actual impacts, and merely **3.6%** explained the outcomes of the management of the risks, while 24.5% disclosed steps taken to monitor supply chain conditions besides auditing.
- Only **5.3%** of the researched European companies provided information on corporate engagement with workers and communities in mapping and/or addressing supply chain risks.

The research **did not** look specifically at issues of human trafficking, slavery or labour exploitation, but there were indicators to look at the corporate engagement with workers and communities in mapping and/or addressing supply chain risks. Human rights risks were a specific focus. For more information see the full [report](#).

## 25th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action



In light of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the CSW Women’s Rights Caucus, containing over 200 organisations, has adopted the [Feminist Declaration](#). This is an alternative to the political declaration that outlines the steps necessary to achieve gender equality. Twenty-five years after the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the foundational global document on gender equality, governments at an abbreviated session of the UN’s Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) have reaffirmed a commitment to gender equality but according to leading feminist groups and activists, fell short of committing to the transformative steps necessary to achieve this vision.

Also related to the Beijing anniversary, the UN Women released a [28-Page Report](#) reviewing the Beijing Platform for Action. This report draws on the most comprehensive and participatory stock-taking exercise ever undertaken on women’s rights, to which 170 countries contributed. It highlights gaps and opportunities and proposes effective solutions. Also Human Rights Watch called on governments to fulfil women’s rights pledges. Whilst HRW acknowledges some progress has been made, it highlights that “We are still far from realizing the vision put forward in Beijing.” Read more [here](#).

## IOM launched tools to identify vulnerabilities associated with migration



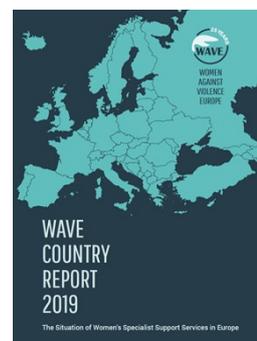
In February 2020, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) launched a new suite of publications to support the identification of vulnerabilities associated with migration and improve the protection and assistance available to migrants.

These [tools](#) are meant to assist policymakers and practitioners by laying out Operational direction on providing protection and assistance to migrants vulnerable to, or who have been subject to, violence, exploitation and abuse. The tools were produced within the framework of the [Global Action Against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants \(GLO.ACT\)](#), a joint initiative implemented by UNODC in partnership with IOM and UNICEF.

## WAVE - Women Against Violence Europe

WAVE, the Women Against Violence Europe network, celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year and recently published a [report](#) on the situation of women’s specialist support services in Europe. The report highlights clear gaps in shelter (and bed) capacities and highlights that only 5 out of 46 countries meet the Istanbul Convention’s minimum standard.

WAVE urges States to provide more financial support and to work with women’s NGOs in order to improve and increase service provision to meet demand, and to ensure that preventive work is based on awareness raising and education around early intervention and recognition of violence.



## REPORT: Protection of Victims of Sexual Violence: Lessons Learned

The OHCHR released a 28-page [report](#): *Protection of Victims of Sexual Violence: Lessons Learned* drawing lessons from workshops with the aim to understand how to ensure victims are protected effectively in fragile and complex contexts with limited capacity and resources such as conflict situations. The workshops covered topics including: implementing a victim-centred approach, protecting the victim's identity, protecting the victim from psychological harm, combatting stigmatisation, promoting a holistic approach to protection and funding of protection programs. It concludes with some of the following points: → Efforts to address stigma must be coordinated with other efforts aimed at enhancing victim protection before, during and after judicial proceedings; → There is a need for a holistic approach to protect victims of sexual violence including strategic intervention to address the different levels of interventions and different forms of harm. → Sexual violence against men is often neglected and requires specific interventions that take into account the differentiated needs of men and boys.

## ICMPD Releases its Migration Outlook 2020



ICMPD released its Migration Outlook 2020. This [report](#) provides a brief analysis of migration and policy trends in the coming year and an outlook on developments and events for which to watch out. The key priorities include:

1. Irregular migration as the main theme of the European debate;
2. Secondary movements towards Europe;
3. The migration situation in Turkey and Greece;
4. The new EU Pact on Migration and Asylum and
5. Brexit and the status on EU and UK migrants.

## Report: UN Sustainable Development Goals 2019

The UN has released their 2019 Sustainable Development Goals Report. This 66 page [SDG report](#) applauds some of the progress that has been made including the decline in extreme poverty and increased policy action supporting sustainable consumption and production. It looks at the required action to achieve the 2030 goals highlighting areas that can drive progress across all 17 SDGs such as sustainable and inclusive economies; more effective institutions; local action; better use of data; and harnessing science, technology and innovation with a greater focus on digital transformation.



## Using Criminal Law to restrict NGOs supporting Refugees and other Migrants

The Expert Council on NGO Law has just published a [study](#) looking at the situation of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) carrying out humanitarian assistance and related work in support of refugees and other migrants in Council of Europe (CoE) Member States, and the extent to which criminal law and its enforcement impact on legitimate NGO activity.

The study finds that laws criminalising NGO activity, and the enforcement of such laws, impact significantly on legitimate NGO activity, negatively affecting freedom of association and related human rights. The laws themselves are vague and lack legal certainty in their application and the limitations placed on lawful NGO activities are often neither necessary nor proportionate. The Expert Council on NGO Law is preparing guidelines based on this study to help CoE Member States ensure that their law and practice when taking action against trafficking, smuggling and border control is consistent with applicable European standards governing freedom of association and the rights of NGOs.

## NGOs request consultation for EC development of Migration and Asylum Pact

216 organisations, including La Strada International and several of our members, working to support refugees and migrants providing services and defending their rights in Europe and worldwide, sent a [letter](#) to Commissioner Johansson of DG Migration and Home to request a formal consultation as part of the development of the Migration and Asylum Pact and forthcoming proposals in accordance with Article 11 of the Treaty of the European Union. In 2016, the consultations were limited because of the urgency dictated by the so-called refugee crisis. Now that this sense of urgency no longer exists, the signing organisations believe there is an opportunity to build a comprehensive, sustainable EU migration and asylum policy.

## Call for Papers: Anti-Trafficking Review 'Trafficking in Minors'



The Anti-Trafficking Review has launched a [call](#) for papers on the theme 'Trafficking in Minors'. This ATR issue will explore how the phenomenon of trafficking in minors empirically manifests itself, how it is discursively constructed in different

countries, and how it is reacted to, both in an ideological sense and in terms of law enforcement and child welfare considerations. The deadline for submissions is 1 June 2020.

## What's new on the web ?

### Feminists for sex workers campaign website launched

ICRSE, the International Committee of the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe launched a [campaign website](#) expressing support for sex workers' right to self-determination and the recognition of sex work as work. On the site (ex) sex workers from diverse backgrounds from Ukraine, France, Germany, Norway and Romania tell their stories of grassroots activism, accompanied by social media visuals and a short animation. Earlier ICRSE also published an [Intersectional Activism Toolkit](#) for sex workers and allies. This toolkit, based on ICRSE's five Intersection Briefing Papers published between 2015 and 2017, aims to help sex workers explore the intersections of sex workers' rights with other rights such as those connected with LGBTQ people, women, workers, migrants and health and raise awareness of our common struggles.



### Compensation for victims of sexual crimes in Europe

The [FAIRCOM project](#) aims to contribute to justice for victims of sexual crimes in the European Union by improving the possibilities for obtaining compensation. The Project involves 6 Partners from 5 European countries (Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Latvia, Greece) with a complementary mix of skills, knowledge and expertise in the field of victim of sexual crimes and compensation. The project announced a new [website](#) and published its e-book: [Fair and Appropriate? Compensation of Victims of Sexual Violence in EU Member States: Greece, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands and Spain.](#)

## Online campaign to pressure brands to be transparent about their supply chains

Clean Clothes Campaign, Human Rights Watch and the International Labor Rights Forum have launched their [online campaign #GoTransparent](#) to pressure brands who are still keeping their supply chains secret. This denies their workers the opportunity to report violations directly. The organisations ask consumers to call on brands and retailers to support workers by publishing a list of all factories that make their products. See more on the [CCC website](#) and read this [full report](#).



## Online HUDOC GREVIO Database



The online [HUDOC-GREVIO database](#) gives access to all baseline evaluation reports, Government comments and Recommendations of the Committee of the Parties of GREVIO. GREVIO is the independent expert body responsible for monitoring the implementation of the *Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence* (Istanbul Convention) by the Parties. In general, the HUDOC database provides access to the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights (Grand Chamber, Chamber and Committee judgments and decisions\*, communicated cases, advisory opinions and legal summaries from the Case-Law Information Note), the European Commission of Human Rights (decisions and reports) and the Committee of Ministers (resolutions). Further information on HUDOC is available on the [HUDOC website of the European Court of Human Rights](#).

## Commission opens consultations for EU Charter of Fundamental Rights Strategy

The European Commission has opened consultations with civil society organisations and rights defenders to inform its work on the upcoming Strategy on the application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. The consultation period will be open until 28 April 2020. The results will inform the work on the Charter Strategy, which will be adopted in autumn 2020. A dedicated questionnaire is available by following this [link](#). If your organisation has a dedicated Charter approach/policy/strategy/paper, you are kindly invited to share it by emailing [frp@fra.europa.eu](mailto:frp@fra.europa.eu)

## What's happening where ?

**Due to the Coronavirus many events planned for February – May 2020 have now been cancelled. Events planned are also still subject to change and dependent on further developments.**

- **8-9 June 2020** – LSI board meeting, Vienna Austria
- **15 June – 3 July 2020** – 44<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Council session – appointment new UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings
- **30 July 2020** – UN World Day against Human Trafficking
- **20-21 August 2020**, [International Conference on Human Trafficking, Slavery and Exploitation](#), London, UK
- **23 August 2020**- International Day for Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
- **15 September 2020** – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary La Strada – start of social media visibility
- **15 September 2020** – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of La Strada Poland

- **24-25 September 2020** – NGO Platform Meeting National NGOs – EU practices to national civil society groups – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open Gate
- **18 October 2020** – EU Anti-Trafficking Day (German presidency)
- **27-29 October 2020** – LSI’s NGO Platform meeting and celebration of LSI’ 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

## What’s on your mind ?

- Several NGO partners in the field raised over the last few days concerns about the vulnerable position of undocumented workers.
- **TAMPEP** launched a [statement of recommendations to National Governments](#) and is collecting information on the [consequences of the situation for migrant sex workers across the region](#). Also **ICRSE** published a separate [statement](#) to raise concern about the vulnerable position of sex workers. ICRSE also created a [list of initiatives](#) started by sex work organizations to collect funds on behalf of the community.
- **PICUM** raised its concern with a [statement](#) about the position of undocumented workers. To raise attention about the alarming situation in the Greek refugee camp Moria in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic, around 10,000 health professionals are [calling](#) upon European governments to take action.
- Furthermore, **EFFAT**, the European Federation of Food Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions has sent a [letter](#) to the European Commission about agrifood workers including among others, a recommendation to regularise undocumented workers.
- **ITUC**’s first update on their [Global COVID-19 Survey](#) shows devastating impacts of pandemic on working people and that the early responses of many governments have been inadequate to protect working people and their families. The recent [New ITUC analysis](#) of government responses from 69 countries to the COVID-19 pandemic has identified 12 governments which are putting people first as they tackle the economic fallout from lock down measures to stem the spread of the virus. ITUC has identified five demands which will have the most direct impact on working people – paid sick leave, wage support and income support for freelancers, self-employed workers, gig economy workers, as well as loan relief for rent or mortgage payments and free health care.
- Also governmental actors have raised concern. **ILO** [urged](#) for three key measures: to protect workers in the workplace, stimulate the economy and employment, and support jobs and incomes. The Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) is undertaking a [rapid research exercise](#) on the impact of responses to the Coronavirus with respect to people’s fundamental rights – such as freedom of movement and assembly. The research covers all EU Member States, and the results will be published in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April 2020.