

10 October, 2019



## Welcome to the 1st Tolerant Press Release!

Tolerant- Transnational Network for Employment integRAtion of women vicTims of trafficking

## Tolerant: Support Victims of Human Trafficking

Trafficking in human beings (THB) is a criminal phenomenon that continues to stain Europe, with different European states being countries of origin, transit and/or destination. According to EU data, nearly 16.000 victims of trafficking were registered in Europe between 2013 and 2014, of whom 64% were female victims of sexual exploitation .

Tolerant, funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), aims at enhancing the integration of third country national women and girl victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation, by focusing on their integration into the labor market in the destination countries and the EU in general. Employment appeared to be the most important factor in the process of integration, enabling women to become financially independent and self-sufficient in the long-term. This approach is supplementary to other past initiatives, which mainly focused either on addressing the victims' basic needs (accommodation, residence permit, psychological and social support) or on supporting victims during procedures before national authorities via the provision of legal aid.

By developing, thus, a transnational cooperation network for employment integration, providing integrated and gender-specific supporting services to women VoT for their access to employment and raising awareness to employers, recruiters, stakeholders and policy makers on the importance of facilitating access to the labour market for women VoT, Tolerant aims at successfully ensuring their independence, safety and human dignity.

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Funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) of the European Union

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