<u>EU Agencies against Trafficking in</u> <u>Human Beings</u>

On 13 June, the Head of eu-LISA as well as his counterparts in EASO, Europol, EMCDDA, Eurojust, EIGE, Frontex, FRA, CEPOL and Eurofound signed a Joint Statement to strengthen their commitment to a coordinated, coherent and comprehensive response to trafficking in human beings.

In line with Commission policy priorities, and as a key deliverable of the Commission Communication of 4 December 2017 on trafficking in human beings, the ten EU Agencies commit in the Joint Statement to continue assisting EU Member States in implementing the EU Anti-trafficking Directive, stepping up the focus on prevention in addressing the whole trafficking chain and countering the culture of impunity for perpetrators, abusers and exploiters; improve victims' access to their rights, adopting a gender specific and child sensitive approach, and to intensify coordination efforts, information sharing and training. This strengthened commitment, which is built on the work conducted since the signing of the first Joint Statement in 2011; will deepen the multidisciplinary approach to trafficking in human beings.

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The signing event took place in the context of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator's mandate and in the presence of the EU Network of National Rapporteurs and Equivalent Mechanisms on trafficking in human beings.

Building on the synergies created since back in <u>2011</u>, the Joint Statement is a key concrete action set forth by the December 2017 <u>Commission Communication</u> <u>stepping up action to address trafficking in human beings</u>, under Priority C – Intensify a coordinated and consolidated response, both within and outside the EU.

The full press release as well as the Joint Statement are available here:

https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/eu-policy/heads-ten-eu-agencies-commitworking-together-against-trafficking-human-beings_en