

## Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

The Director

Warsaw, 25 April 2023

Ms. Heather Wokusch Director of Development International Forum for Understanding Vienna

Dear Ms. Wokusch,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for participation in the event "Recognition of survivor leaders' inclusion in anti-trafficking policies" on the margins of the 23rd Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons, organized by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) on 18 April in Vienna.

Your presentation during the event was an invaluable contribution to the success of the launch of the <u>Code of Practice for Ensuring the Rights of Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking</u> and <u>e-Learning Course on Capacity Building for Survivor Leaders of Trafficking in Human Beings</u>.

It was inspiring, helped shape the event and underlined the need for survivor inclusion in the development of anti-trafficking legislation, policies, and overall efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, including in National Referral Mechanisms (NRMs) and equivalent mechanisms.

The event revealed that further efforts can be made when it comes to creating synergies and reinforcing anti-trafficking actions, especially in ensuring that voices of survivors are part of the policy-making process. This aligns with OSCE commitments and draws on <a href="ODIHR's NRM Handbook">ODIHR's NRM Handbook</a>, which also recognizes the importance of the contributions of survivor leaders to all aspects of effective anti-trafficking work.

I look forward to our continued co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Matteo Mecacci