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**CTD: 15EM- ETHNICITY, MIGRATION, AND DIASPORA
SUB-DOMAIN: GENDER, KINSHIP, AND MIGRATION**

PANEL TITLE:

**TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD IN THE
PERSPECTIVE OF MIGRATION AND GENDER**

CONVENOR: PROF. ARUN KUMAR ACHARYA

ABSTRACT

Migration and sex trafficking are one of the fastest growing areas of international criminal activity and one of increasing concern for the international community. According to the US State Department, human trafficking generates a revenue of approximately 9.5 billion dollars annually, making the second largest criminal industry in the world today. This phenomenon presents an increasing global problem that involves sexual and human rights exploitation. Migration and human trafficking share many elements in common such as their vulnerability and lack of protection and security. It has now become a complex development issue, as many trafficking victims are the consequences of poverty, unemployment, cultural practices as well as natural disasters. Trafficking poses a serious health problem, as trafficked women and children are most at risk from HIV infection. It is a gender problem, as unequal power relations reinforce women's secondary status in society. Lastly, it is a legal problem, as they are stripped of their human rights and lack any access to redress the crimes committed against them.

Thus, considering the above, this session will focus on the nexus between migration and trafficking in persons considering the variables of age and gender. Such an exploration and debate of all possible variables involved in forcing people to migrate or trafficking will aim at finding ways of improving the coordination of efforts at the regional, national, and global levels against sex trafficking, as well as strengthening gender-sensitive approaches in all anti-trafficking efforts.

Keywords: Human trafficking, Migration, gendered inequality, health concerns

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