

²⁰²⁷ Government of Liberia, *Labour Practices Law (Title 18 and 18A)*, section 74, 1506 (para 11). See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Liberia," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting, December 10, 2007*, para 2a.

²⁰²⁸ Government of Liberia, *Labour Practices Law (Title 18 and 18A)*, section 74. See also U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting, December 10, 2007*, para 2a.

²⁰²⁹ Government of Liberia, *Constitution of the Republic of Liberia*, (1847), article 12; available from <http://www.embassyofliberia.org/theconstitution.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Liberia," section 6c.

²⁰³⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Liberia," section 5.

²⁰³¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "*Liberia*" in *Child Solidiers Global Report 2004*, London, March 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=966.

²⁰³² U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, section 2b.

²⁰³³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Liberia," section 6d, 6e.

²⁰³⁴ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see Government of Liberia, *Labour Practices Law (Title 18 and 18A)*, (1956), section 74; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=LBR&p_classification=01.02&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.

See also U.S. Department of State, "Liberia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007* Washington, D.C., March 11, 2008, section 5; available

from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100489.htm>. See also UNESCO, *Liberia - Education system*, December 18, 2007; available from http://www.unesco.org/iau/onlinedatabases/systems_data/lr.rtf. See also U.S. Embassy- Monrovia, *reporting, December 15, 2006*, para 1. See also Women's Commission for refugee women and children, *Help us Help Ourselves: Education in the Conflict to Post-Conflict Transition in Liberia*, New York, March 2006, 7; available from

http://www.womenscommission.org/pdf/lr_ed.pdf
²⁰³⁵ Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, Technical Progress Report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006, 2.

²⁰³⁶ ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006, 5-7. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, Technical progress Report, 10-11.

²⁰³⁷ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "LIBERIA: Go to school or go to jail ", IRINnews.org, [online], September 21, 2007; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=74422>.

²⁰³⁸ International Rescue Committee, *Countering Youth and Child Labour Through Education (CYCLE)*, 19-22.

²⁰³⁹ UNICEF, *Vocational Training helps reintegrate Liberia's former child soldiers*, [online] [cited November 26, 2007]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/liberia_40185.html.

Macedonia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work on the streets in Macedonia, begging for money, and also perform minor services, such as selling cigarettes and other small items. These activities occur on the streets as well as in bars or restaurants.²⁰⁴⁰ Children also work in the informal sector on family farms, but this does not usually happen during school hours.²⁰⁴¹ Street children are predominantly of the Roma minority

ethnic group, but also include ethnic Albanians, Turks, and Macedonians.²⁰⁴² Romani children are organized into groups to beg for money at busy intersections, street corners, and in restaurants.²⁰⁴³

Girls and young women from families with social and economic problems are among the groups in Macedonia considered to be at the highest risk of becoming victims of TIP.²⁰⁴⁴

***Selected Statistics and Indicators
on Child Labor***²⁰⁴⁵

Working children, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working boys, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working girls, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	Eighth grade or 16
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	98
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	92
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No
*Must pay for books and other related supplies	

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Forced labor is prohibited by the Constitution.²⁰⁴⁶ The law prohibits all forms of trafficking in persons. However, there were reports that trafficking did occur, and that Macedonia is a source, transit, and destination country for TIP.²⁰⁴⁷ Penalties for mediators or organizers of prostitution range from a minimum of a monetary fine to a maximum of 10 years imprisonment. Prison sentences for traffickers of sexual and/or labor exploitation are between 4 and 15 years.²⁰⁴⁸ The law also provides for a minimum prison sentence of 8 years for persons who engage in the trafficking of minors or who knowingly engage in sexual relations with a trafficked child.²⁰⁴⁹

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years.²⁰⁵⁰ The employment of minors in work that is “detrimental to their health or morality” is prohibited.²⁰⁵¹ Minors are further prohibited from working overtime, working at night between 10

p.m. and 6 a.m., or performing work that involves “strenuous physical labor, underground or underwater work, or other jobs which may be harmful or threatening to their health and life.” Minors are also not permitted to work in mines.²⁰⁵² However, the law allows children to work in film or advertisements with parental consent, and after a Ministry inspection of the workplace. Additionally, children under 14 years can work as apprentices or in vocational education programs if the work is part of an official education program.²⁰⁵³ Employers who illegally employ minors face a potential fine.²⁰⁵⁴ Individuals under 18 years are prohibited from serving in the Armed Forces.²⁰⁵⁵ Furthermore, amendments were made to the criminal code to specifically address the problem of trafficking in children. Article 418g provides for a stricter penalty of up to 15 years imprisonment. Under this article, the use of minors for sexual exploitation is a criminal act and is punishable as trafficking, regardless of whether or not the minor agreed to participate in the act.²⁰⁵⁶

Enforcement of laws regulating the employment of children is the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.²⁰⁵⁷ According to USDOS, although a legal framework is in place, there has been little practical implementation of child labor laws and policies.²⁰⁵⁸ The State Labor Inspectorate has not reported the discovery of cases involving minors working in factories or other businesses in Macedonia.²⁰⁵⁹

The Government of Macedonia increased the number of trafficking cases prosecuted in 2007, the most recent year for which this information is available, to 55 cases; up from 48 cases in 2006.²⁰⁶⁰ Over 50 percent of traffickers (i.e., half of all suspects) were convicted in 2006, with sentences between 8 months and 13 years imprisonment, including victim restitution and confiscation of property. Two police officers were found guilty of trafficking-related crimes and received sentences of 18 months and 2 years, respectively.²⁰⁶¹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In cooperation with the Government, UNICEF is conducting public awareness-raising campaigns on street children and child trafficking.²⁰⁶² It is also implementing a program for the re-socialization and re-integration of child trafficking victims, with financial support from IOM.²⁰⁶³ ILO-IPEC is implementing a USD 2.2 million regional project, funded by the German Government, to combat the worst forms of child labor in the stability pact countries, which includes Macedonia.²⁰⁶⁴ IOM and local NGOs are implementing other various counter-trafficking projects in cooperation with the Government, including the anti-TIP information project *Open Your Eyes*, and provides support for the toll free trafficking SOS number. IOM also operated a transit center that assisted more than 60 trafficking victims, which is 17 more victims than the year before.²⁰⁶⁵ Border Police officers participated actively in USAID sponsored training, especially as part of the Trans-National Referral Mechanism Project, administered by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development.²⁰⁶⁶

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare operates one center for street children in Skopje. The center is Government funded, and also receives international financial support. According to the Ministry of Labor, an average of 275 children per month, predominantly Romani, had been served by the center in the past 3 years.²⁰⁶⁷

In February 2007, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy signed a long expected MOU which established special requirements for the protection of child trafficking victims and makes mandatory the presence of social workers during police raids. It should also lead to better coordination on victim identification and assistance.²⁰⁶⁸

²⁰⁴⁰ Divna Lakinska, *Assessment of Policies, Situation and Programmes for Children on the Streets in Macedonia*, prepared by UNICEF, June 2005, 4, 38, 103. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia," section 6d.

²⁰⁴¹ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

²⁰⁴² Lakinska, *Assessment of Policies, Situation and Programmes for Children on the Streets in Macedonia*.

²⁰⁴³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia," section 5.

²⁰⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, February 22, 2008.

²⁰⁴⁵ For data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education see Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*, (November 17, 1991), article 42; available from http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/mk00000_.html.

See also U.S. Department of State, "Macedonia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, D.C., March 11, 2008, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/index.htm>. See also Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*, Article 44.

²⁰⁴⁶ Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*, Article 11. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia," section 6c.

²⁰⁴⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia," section 5.

²⁰⁴⁸ Skopje, *reporting*, February 22, 2008.

²⁰⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia."

²⁰⁵⁰ Government of Macedonia, *Constitution of Macedonia, 1991*.

²⁰⁵¹ Ibid.

²⁰⁵² Government of Macedonia, *Labor Relations Act: Macedonia*, (December 27, 1993), Sections 7, 63, 66, and 67; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/47727/65084/E93MKD02.htm>. See also Skopje, *reporting*, February 22, 2008.

²⁰⁵³ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

²⁰⁵⁴ Ibid.

²⁰⁵⁵ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Macedonia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/regions/country.html?id=126>.

²⁰⁵⁶ Skopje, *reporting*, February 22, 2008.

²⁰⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia," section 6d.

²⁰⁵⁸ Ibid.

²⁰⁵⁹ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 03, 2007.

²⁰⁶⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia," section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Macedonia (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, D.C., June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82798.htm>.

²⁰⁶¹ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Macedonia."

²⁰⁶² UNICEF, *Child Protection*, [online] July 5, 2006 [cited March 19, 2008]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/tfymacedonia/protection.html>

²⁰⁶³ U.S. Embassy-Skopje, *reporting, February 22, 2008.*

²⁰⁶⁴ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 1, 2007.

²⁰⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Macedonia." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Macedonia."

²⁰⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy- Skopje, E-mail communication, August 03, 2007.

²⁰⁶⁷ Ibid.

²⁰⁶⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Macedonia." See also Skopje, *reporting, February 22, 2008.*

Madagascar

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*²⁰⁶⁹

Working children, 6-14 years (%), 2001:	24.3
Working boys, 6-14 years (%), 2001:	24.8
Working girls, 6-14 years (%), 2001:	23.7
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	139
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	93
School attendance, children 6-14 years (%), 2001:	65.6
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	43
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas of Madagascar, children work in agriculture on family subsistence farms and sisal plantations. Children also perform tasks such as fruit tree picking and cattle herding.²⁰⁷⁰ In urban

areas, particularly the South East and Upper Center zones, it is common for children to work in domestic service.²⁰⁷¹ Children also work in bars and restaurants; petty trading; welding and mechanical work; transporting goods by rickshaw; and begging.²⁰⁷² Young boys in Diego Suarez, Majunga and Manakara work for traveling vendors by loading and selling merchandise.²⁰⁷³ In coastal areas, children work in fishing, deep sea diving, and in the shrimp industry.²⁰⁷⁴

Children are involved in mining precious and semi-precious stones and in informal-sector work in and around the mines, particularly in the town of Ilakaka; most of this work is performed alongside their families. Children also engage in salt mining and production in Tulear; work in granite mines near Antananarivo; and in stone quarries, performing tasks such as breaking and carrying baskets full of stones.²⁰⁷⁵

Girls are engaged in commercial sexual exploitation, mostly in urban areas, including the capital city of Antananarivo. Child sex tourism is a growing problem in Antananarivo and small coastal towns and villages, especially in Tamatave, Nosy Be, Tulear, and Diego Suarez.²⁰⁷⁶

Madagascar is a source country for internal trafficking of children for sexual exploitation and forced labor. It is suspected that Malagasy children are trafficked from rural to urban areas for forced labor in mines, product vending, prostitution, and