

# *The Importance of Social Work and Psychosocial Assistance in Working with Victims of Human Trafficking*

## *Summary*

*Human trafficking as transnational phenomenon is recognized as a felony in Croatian legislation. It is also regulated by the European legislation. The consequences are various and cover every aspect of a person. Consequently, successful coping with the consequences requires comprehensive assistance and protection, which is achieved through the cooperation of various experts. The victim will receive assistance and protection only when, at the sole beginning, is identified as a victim of human trafficking. Comprehensive assistance and protection provided through the cooperation of state institutions, non-profit organizations, social welfare centres and so on should be planned and targeted and professionals who participate in providing of assistance should be well informed as with the phenomenon of human trafficking as well with the professional methods which are appropriate for working with this often very specific population. The paper emphasizes psychosocial assistance where the role of social work profession is especially prominent.*

*Key words: human trafficking, social work, psychosocial assistance*