



D2.4 Three women's circles

A summary report

Disclaimer

This document provides a short summary of the key findings from two rounds of women's circles that were conducted in June 2024. The women's circles were carried out by Dignita, Foundation in both Sofia and Varna. This short version highlights the primary conclusions and insights gathered during the circles, offering an overview of the key findings and main areas of discussion. For detailed findings and comprehensive analysis, please refer to the full report.

Key Findings from the three women's circles

As part of the ERADICATING II project, Dignita Foundation conducted a series of "women's circles" consultation meetings in June and July 2024 in Sofia and Varna, Bulgaria. These sessions engaged 44 Ukrainian women refugees to explore the challenges they face in



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integration and identify vulnerabilities to trafficking in human beings and labor exploitation. Conducted in collaboration with local NGOs, these meetings aimed to understand refugee women's experiences in employment, identify risks, and propose actionable solutions to enhance their resilience against exploitation.

The methodology

The women's circles involved small, interactive sessions facilitated by a moderator, a facilitator and an interpreter (Russian-Bulgarian), ensuring participants could freely share their views, opinions and thoughts. Each two-hour meeting followed a structured format, including ice-breaking, discussions on integration challenges, labor market experiences, and knowledge of institutional frameworks to address risks. Participants' informed consent was obtained, and the sessions were recorded, transcribed, and analyzed to derive key insights. Four sessions were conducted with different groups, ensuring a diverse range of experiences and views.

Key topics discussed

- ✧ Introductions to the project and the women's circles objectives.
- ✧ Ice-breaking activities discussing about their roles, profiles and communities.
- ✧ Integration challenges and Risks for Ukrainian Refugee Women in Bulgaria.
- ✧ Experience with Labor Market Integration.
- ✧ Knowledge of the institutional framework to support women at risk.
- ✧ Closing session.

Conclusions

The women's circles brought important inputs on the development of the analytical report on the risks of THB for labor exploitation among Ukrainian women and children that will be elaborated under a holistic report.