



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM  
Federal Public Service  
**Foreign Affairs,  
Foreign Trade and  
Development Cooperation**



# 2025 EUROPE REGIONAL FORUM

## CONCEPT SUMMARY

*Harmonizing Efforts to  
Eliminate Forced Labor  
and Child Labor: Sharing  
Progress and Best  
Practices in Europe and  
Globally*



5-7 MAY, 2025



BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



[freedomfromslaveryforum.org](https://freedomfromslaveryforum.org)



# INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

The Europe Regional Forum comes at a time when the world faces unprecedented challenges to meet its commitments to address forced labor and child labor in Europe and globally. Through the legislative and programmatic landscape, Europe is initiating some of the preeminent solutions to ensuring goods entering the region are free from forced labor and child labor. A multi-stakeholder approach to these solutions calls for assessing the progress made thus far, the gaps remaining, and the level of engagement.

Some progress is being made to tackle these issues through effective frameworks such as the Pathfinder Country process of Alliance 8.7, the EU legislative framework, strategic programs including action plans being implemented at country and regional levels, and other strategic and effective policies and programs. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) assume that child labor will be eliminated by 2025. This forum offers an opportunity to dive into the progress made and the way forward.

The Belgian Federal Public Service of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, and Free the Slaves are partnering, together with the members of the Forum Committee, to organize the second Europe regional forum to discuss key priorities to address forced labor and child labor including in global supply chains.





# OBJECTIVE AND OUTCOMES

The 2025 Europe Forum will bring together key stakeholders from Europe to discuss promising approaches to combating forced labor and child labor in Europe and globally, and to identify some priorities for effective coordination and collaboration, mobilization, and engagement.

The key outcomes of the forum include an unequivocal understanding of the progress and gaps in addressing forced labor and child labor and ways stakeholders can coordinate and promote engagement and mobilization.



# PARTICIPANTS AND SPEAKERS



The forum expects around 100 participants from Europe and other regions. They will include government representatives, businesses, persons with lived experience, civil society organizations (CSO), employer organizations, United Nations agencies, EU institutions and agencies, field practitioners, and academics.

Speakers and facilitators are experienced in the issues and will provide expert knowledge on the issue; they range from governments, businesses, persons with lived experience, CSOs, etc.



# STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAM

The 3-day program offers space for in-depth analysis and stocktaking of the progress and an opportunity to figure out what is next.

## Day One

5 May 2025: 9:00-16:30

Focus on: understanding forced and child labor in Europe, including regulatory measures, survivor engagement, and challenges in enforcing bans. Workshops explore cross-national cooperation and research best practices. The day will end with a reception that will start at 17:00.

## Day Two

6 May 2025: 9:00-16:00

Focus on legislative and industry challenges, including forced labor in the textile sector, the Europe Pathfinder Framework, and misconceptions about Mandatory Human Rights Due Diligence. Workshops cover grievance mechanisms and survivor engagement.

## Day Three

7 May 2025: 9:00-16:00

Focus on addresses sector-specific issues, with a keynote on reframing modern slavery, followed by discussions on forced labor in agriculture and global supply chain coordination. The forum concludes with the closing ceremony and next steps.

More information on the detailed agenda will be available soon.





## REGISTRATION

The link for the registration is available until 15 April 2025.

## VENUE

The Europe Regional Forum will be held from **5th – 7th May 2025** at the **Egmont Palace** located at Place du Petit Sablon 8; 1000 Brussels, Belgium.

## CONTACT

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