

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION  
TASK FORCE ON INTERNATIONAL RULE OF LAW SYMPOSIA  
REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

RECOMMENDATION

1 RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal  
2 governments to pass legislation, authorize funding, and appropriate funding that strengthens  
3 protection and assistance for victims of trafficking in persons, within the United States or abroad,  
4 as well as bolsters prevention efforts including measures to:

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- 6 1. Provide emergency assistance and the prompt appointment of guardians *ad litem* for  
7 child victims of trafficking;
- 8 2. Ensure that law enforcement agencies promptly provide all trafficking victims who are  
9 willing to cooperate with those agencies with a certification/endorsement to that effect;
- 10 3. Exclude requirements imposed on visa applicants to cooperate with law enforcement, to  
11 be physically present in the United States, and to show “extreme hardship” upon removal  
12 from the United States;
- 13 4. Provide an exception to the “good moral character” requirement for victims of trafficking  
14 and their family members when the applicant’s conduct at issue is incident to or relates to  
15 the trafficking and allow them to apply for permanent residence as soon as they are  
16 granted T-visas;
- 17 5. Support funding for legal assistance for trafficking victims in criminal, civil, immigration  
18 cases, and other trafficking related matters;
- 19 6. Increase resources for the investigation and prosecution of traffickers as well as for the  
20 protection and assistance of victims and their family members within the United States  
21 and abroad;
- 22 7. Protect the economic and civil rights of the most vulnerable populations to trafficking  
23 and provide them with access to education, skills training, and financial assistance  
24 programs;
- 25 8. Increase resources to promote the education of law enforcement, immigration officials,  
26 and other government officials on the trafficking issue and foster the development of  
27 guidelines, policies, and procedures for protecting victims, and investigating and  
28 prosecuting trafficking matters; and
- 29 9. Support funding for education campaigns and programs directed to judges, attorneys, law  
30 students, legal services providers, legislators, government officials, the media, and others,  
31 that create awareness about laws and policies against trafficking in persons.
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33 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association encourage efforts by state, local,  
34 territorial, tribal, specialty, and foreign bar associations to engage members of the legal

- 1 profession in raising awareness of trafficking in persons in their communities and in providing
- 2 pro bono legal services to victims of trafficking.