



## Kevin Hyland OBE

Following 30 years in policing, including leading London's Human Trafficking Unit, in 2014 Kevin Hyland was appointed as the UK's first Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner by the Rt. Honourable Theresa May serving with distinction until 2018.

As a police officer he led numerous international human trafficking joint investigation teams, running operations across Europe, SE Asia, South Asia and Africa dismantling and convicting many organised crime groups and providing safety for 1000's of victims.

In 2015 he was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Honour list for his services to trafficking

He was the author of SDG 8.7 and led efforts for its inclusion of the eradication of human trafficking within the UN 15-year global goals.

During his time as Commissioner he led many international changes, bringing human trafficking to the fore within the UN at the Security Council, the General Assembly and worked with other organisations including the ILO, IOM and UNODC. By securing a specific global goal he played a key role in establishing Alliance 8.7 at the UN and in releasing millions of dollars from various aid budgets for development and prevention of human trafficking.

He championed improved responses for migrant children in Northern France and provided the UK Government with advice on their duty towards trafficking within displaced migrant's situation in Greece, Italy and North Africa. This resulted in a series of recommendations and responses and the fast tracking of over 400 children from Calais to the UK under Dublin agreements.

Having travelled to Vietnam, at the request of the former PM of the UK David Cameron, he provided advice and guidance for responses on trafficked Vietnamese adults and minors reaching Europe. This has resulted in a joint task force between the UK and Vietnam and the first ever exchange of law enforcement officers between the two nations.

In 2018 Mr Hyland was elected to the Council of Europe Independent Group of Experts for Trafficking.

He was instrumental in the establishment and remains chief advisor to the Santa Marta Group, a high-level partnership between law enforcement agencies, faith groups and civil society endorsed by Pope Francis at its launch in the Vatican. This group has been instrumental in developing improved responses for victims and law enforcement efforts internationally including in Africa, North and South America, Asia, Europe and within international agencies such as Europol, the UN and Interpol.

In 2018, as a member of the influential G20 Faith Group Forum modern slavery group, secured the inclusion of addressing financial markets in the final outcomes document of the G20 World Leaders summit.

He leads several international anti trafficking projects chairing the Responsible Recruitment Group of the Institute of Human Rights and Business and the Island of Ireland Human Trafficking Project. He provides strategic leadership as advisor to the US based Global Fund to End Modern Slavery and to the OSCE in producing global victim support guidance under the UN Palermo Protocol agreed National Referral Mechanisms.