The Spanish Presidency of the Council of the European Union has the honour to organise the **European Crime Prevention Award** (ECPA) in 2023. The ECPA has been, since the start of the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN), one of the essential events of the Network, which contributes to the exchange of crime prevention best practices in the EU and continues to highlight the success of crime prevention throughout Europe.

The Spanish Presidency of the EUCPN will focus on **the trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation and other kinds of exploitation**.

Human trafficking can be considered as the contemporary form of slavery of the 21st century, which constitutes a serious violation of the dignity and freedom of the person and a form of serious crime. Moreover, it is important to highlight that specific groups, such as vulnerable people, especially women, children and men in delicate physical or economic conditions, are the main targets of this type of criminality.
For all of the above reasons, it is claimed that the fight against human trafficking for labour exploitation requires a consolidated, cross-border and multi-disciplinary effort by different authorities, and the Spanish National Police's Illegal Immigration Network and False Document Unit (UCRIF) coordinates this involvement at national law enforcement level, collaborating with the European Labour Authority in joint inspections.

Each Member State can submit **one project** that addresses the prevention of Labour Crimes and other forms of exploitation to compete in the ECPA contest.

We kindly ask you to send the projects for the ECPA in English to the EUCPN Secretariat (eucpn@ibz.eu), through the National Representatives of the EUCPN. Each EU Member State may submit one entree. The deadline to submit the projects is **29 September** 2023.
The Best Practice Conference where all national entries will be presented and the winner announced will be on **13 and 14 December** 2023 in Valentia.

Attached to this email you can find the template applicable to the ECPA projects (Annex I), together with the evaluation form (Annex II), the Rules and procedures for awarding and presenting the ECPA (Annex III) and the Guidelines for presenters (Annex IV). A jury will evaluate all the projects submitted based on

the template. Any extra information linked to the projects cannot be considered during the jury evaluation. Member States are invited to bring along any illustrative materials and creative solutions (DVD's, flyers, posters, apps, links to websites, etc.) to the BPC, where the space is provided for presenting the materials and share them with others.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the EUCPN Secretariat.