

REGULATIONS GOVERNING TEMPORARY PLACEMENT SHELTERS AND PROTECTION AND SUPPORT CENTERS FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

SECTION I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 4. (1) Local Commissions to combat trafficking in persons shall have affiliated human trafficking victims protection and support centers that shall provide services to trafficking victims.

(2) Protection and support centers for trafficking victims shall:

1. provide information about administrative and court procedures that accord victims of human trafficking protection and support in a language the latter understand;
2. ensure specialized psychological and medical care;
3. assist in the reintegration of victims in the family and social environment;

SECTION II

PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE FOUNDING OF SHELTERS FOR THE TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

Art. 5 (1) Shelters for the temporary placement of victims of trafficking shall be founded by:

1. The National Commission to combat trafficking in persons, on motion by the local commissions or the municipalities;
2. Natural persons, registered under the Commercial Code and legal not-for-profit entities that provide shelter to the victims of human trafficking.

(2) Temporary placement shelters under Art. 5, para 1, item 2 shall engage in

activities pursuant of the Act on Combating Trafficking in Persons, following entry in the register maintained by the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

Art. 6. In conjunction with a motivated motion, explaining the need for such shelters and the committed human and material resources, local commissions and municipalities shall submit proposals for the founding of shelters under Art. 5, para 1, item 1 to the National Commission.

Art. 7. (1) Entry in the register under Art. 5, para 1, item 2 shall be made after the following documents are submitted to the National Commission:

1. a written application to the Chair of the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons, in accordance with a sample form pursuant of Annex 1.
2. a certificate of the current status of the applicant issued by the competent court, listing the purpose of activity as "provision of services to persons, victims of human trafficking";
3. a certified copy of the registration certificate under Art. 44 of the Regulations on the Application of the Social Assistance Act;
4. a natural person's statement of criminal record or such issued to persons acting in proxy or on authority by the natural persons;
5. a motivated motion, explaining the need for such shelters and the committed human and material resources.

(2) The registration of shelters for the temporary placement of human trafficking victims that shall provide services to children - victims of trafficking, requires a certified copy of the license issued pursuant of Art. 43 b of the Child Protection Act.

(3) Representative offices of international intergovernmental organizations shall provide services to victims of trafficking on the territory of the country in compliance with international treaties to which the Republic of Bulgaria is signatory.

Art. 8. (1) The National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons shall rule on the application and appended documents within 30 days of receipt.

(2) In the event of omissions in the submitted documents the applicant shall be notified in writing and be allowed 7 days to remedy them.

(3) When provisions under Art. 7 and Art. 8, para 2 have not been complied with, the National Commission shall deny registration and notify the applicant in writing.

(4) Upon registration a certificate shall be issued valid for a period of 5 years.

(5) Registration rejections shall be appealable pursuant of the Supreme Administrative Court Act.

Art. 9. (1) Registration shall be cancelled:

1. on decision by the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons;
2. on request by the registered person;
3. upon termination of the legal entity and deletion from the Commercial Register of the natural person registered under the Commercial Code;
4. upon declaring the registered person insolvent;
5. upon cancellation of the registration pursuant of Art. 44 of the Regulations on the Application of the Social Assistance Act and Art. 43 b of the Child Protection Act;
6. when the provisions of the current Regulations have been contravened;
7. when business conducted is in derogation of the law and good morals.

(2) The Executive Director of the Social Assistance Agency and the Chair of the State Agency for Child Protection shall notify the Chair of the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons within 14 days of cancellation of the registration under Art. 44 of the Regulations on the Application of the Social Assistance Act and Art. 43 b of the Child Protection Act.

Art. 10. (1) The cancellation of the registration shall be effected by order of the Chair of the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

(2) The order shall be subject to appeal pursuant of the provisions of the Supreme Administrative Court Act.

Art. 11. In order to be issued a new registration certificate the registered person shall submit an application one month prior to the expiration of the registration deadline, attaching the documents under Art. 7.

SECTION III

OPERATIONAL RULES OF THE SHELTERS FOR TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

(...)

Art. 13. (1) The shelter staff shall comprise welfare workers, medical personnel, tutors, psychologists, lawyers and other specialists, assisted by support staff.

(2) The Chair of the National Commission shall endorse minimum requirements regarding staffing levels and qualification.

(...)

SECTION IV

REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCOMMODATION AT SHELTERS FOR THE TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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Art. 20. (1) The State Agency for Child Protection shall be promptly notified of the placement of a child – victim of human trafficking.

(2) Children, human trafficking victims, shall be accommodated in separate premises away from adults.

(...)