

Internationale Konferenz vom 20.11.-22.11.2008 in Nürnberg

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Vortrag: Der erfolgreiche Kampf gegen den Sklavenhandel und die neuen Formen der Sklaverei

Abstract

Historically the struggle against slavery in the world has focussed on changing law and policy. This has led to enormous success in the struggle where today slavery is everywhere illegal.

However the success of this struggle for legal abolition has exposed its limitation. While slavery is everywhere illegal it is still widely practiced.

The ILO estimates a minimum of 12.3 million people in forced labour in the world and 126 million children in worst forms of child labour. The scale of these figures indicates that while slavery may officially be illegal, socially it is still widely tolerated.

Research on contemporary slavery, such as Anti-Slavery International's research on bonded labour in South Asia or trafficking in Europe, shows that slavery emerges as the conjunction of human vulnerability, usually poverty, and social prejudice, and is underpinned by government disinterest or ineptitude.

Moving to a point in history where we can legitimately talk about slavery eradication, not just its legal abolition, requires a renewed effort which puts the struggle against slavery at the heart of a new political-economic project. This will demand that governments, businesses, trades unions and non-governmental organisations commit to making anti-slavery a central focus of their work and to holding each other accountable to achieve this.

Zur Person:

Direktor von Anti-Slavery International, der ältesten Menschenrechtsorganisation weltweit; geboren in South Armagh, Irland. Studium des Bauingenieurwesens an der Queen's University Belfast und Organisationsmanagement an der Strathclyde University, Glasgow; über 13jährige Tätigkeit im Bereich Humanitärer Hilfe und Entwicklung, u.a. in Ethiopien und Eritrea zu den Themen ländliche Wasserversorgung und Bodenschutz sowie Sicherung von Notwasserversorgung in Flüchtlingslagern nahe Jalalabad, Afghanistan, in den Monaten vor der Machtübernahme der Taliban; fünfjährige Leitung eines Katastrophenhilfeprogramms für über eine Viertelmillion Menschen in den belagerten Städten im Landesinneren am Ende des Bürgerkriegs in Angola; Mitarbeit an der Implementierung eines Programms für den Schutz der Menschenrechte von Zivilist/innen gegenüber militärischen Exzessen in Kooperation mit der UN;

Arbeits- und Forschungsgebiete: Humanitäre Hilfe, Menschenrechte.

Ausgewählte Publikationen:

- 1807-2007: 200 years of Campaigning: <http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/PDF/1807-2007.pdf>

- Trafficking for Forced Labour in Europe:
<http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/PDF/trafficking%20for%20FL%20in%20Europe%204%20country%20report.pdf>

- Trafficking for Forced Labour in the UK:
<http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/PDF/Trafficking%20for%20Forced%20Labour%20UK%20Country%20Report.pdf>