

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



## **HOPE FOR THE FUTURE**

Organisation supporting people in prostitution  
and survivors of trafficking in human beings

address: Badgasse 1-7/5/4, A-1090 Vienna

phone +43 677 61481500

e-mail: [office@hopeforthefuture.at](mailto:office@hopeforthefuture.at)

web: [www.hopeforthefuture.at](http://www.hopeforthefuture.at)



Hope for the Future



[hopeforthefuture\\_vienna](https://www.instagram.com/hopeforthefuture_vienna)



[linkedin.com/company/hopeforthefuture/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hopeforthefuture/)

ZVR-number: 835728727

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE	4
WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO?	5
WHO IS THE TARGET GROUP FOR OUR OFFER?	5
WHICH AREAS ARE THE FOCUS OF OUR ACTIVITIES?	6
A) WORKSHOPS TO PREPARE FOR THE JOB MARKET	7
B) INTEGRATION IN THE LABOR MARKET AND SEARCH FOR JOB AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES	10
C) PUBLIC RELATIONS AND NETWORKING	10
FACTS AND FIGURES 2023	12
REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2023 - EVENTS	13
A BIG THANK YOU!	15
PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS AND FOCUS AREAS 2022-2023	16
DONATIONS AND SUPPORT	18
FINANCIAL REVIEW 2023	18
FINANCIAL STABILITY - A KEY TO SUSTAINABLE CARE	18
IMPRINT	21

# PREFACE

Dear friends and supporters!

2023 was a year full of challenges, but also a year with many highlights, especially in our work with our clients.

Financially, we felt the after-effects of the Covid period and high inflation. Not only did costs increase for us in all areas, but donations and income from the sale of our sewing products declined. This led to me having to register as unemployed in October in order to protect our employees and our work with our clients. In addition, part of the funding for our EU-funded EVI project will not be paid out until 2024 and we still had to pay the wage costs of the project staff members. However, thanks to generous donations around Christmas time, we were able to bring this year to a successful close once again.

During the second year of our EVI project we managed to integrate some clients into jobs, which we are particularly pleased about. We were also able to further expand our network with employers and social and educational institutions, and in September we held our final conference in Nuremberg together with all EVI project partners. It was a pleasure to work with such a great project team.

With Emese and Oksana, we had the honour to welcome two new employees to our team, which means that we now have a stable team to support our sewing workshops. This was an important step at this phase as we have an ever-increasing demand from clients for our services. On the one hand, we are pleased to be able to give as many people as possible hope of a professional future in freedom and dignity, but on the other hand, it also shows that we are living in a time in which there is more and more exploitation.

We will never get tired of being there for our clients and I still have many plans. I am delighted that you are accompanying and supporting us on this journey.



Andrea Staudenherz  
Chairwomen of HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

# WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO?

Unfortunately, human trafficking and various forms of human exploitation are phenomena that are becoming increasingly prevalent in today's society. The report „Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labor and Forced Marriage“, which was published in 2022 by ILO (International Labour Organization), Walk Free and IOM (Int. Organization for Migration), now estimates that around 50 million people worldwide are currently enslaved or exploited. A few years ago, the figure was thought to be just over 40 million. On the one hand, this involves labour exploitation, very often in the form of sexual exploitation, but also phenomena such as forced marriage or exploitation in begging.



Even though many of our clients' stories are very painful, we want to achieve one thing above all: to give hope. However, you can only be an "anchor of hope" for people - as our logo tries to express - if you can offer measures and show them ways to sustainably support them in leading a more independent and self-determined life in the future. Very often, this is initially about fulfilling basic existential needs, but subsequently also about discovering talents, making plans and implementing them step by step.

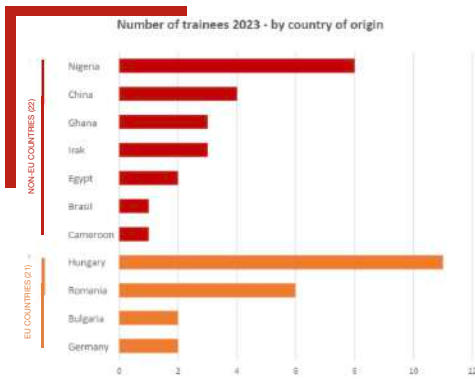
HOPE FOR THE FUTURE has already accompanied well over 100 people on this path in recent years. We will continue to do everything we can to alleviate systemic hurdles for our clients and help them to build a new future in freedom and dignity.

## WHO IS THE TARGET GROUP FOR OUR OFFER?

The services offered by HOPE FOR THE FUTURE are aimed specifically at women and men who want to leave or have left prostitution, regardless of whether they are in forced prostitution or not. In many cases, however, we also support trafficked persons who do not come from forced prostitution but from other forms of exploitation, such as begging or various forms of labour exploitation.

Almost all of our clients originally come from abroad. On the one hand, we work with third-country nationals who only have access to the EU labour market under certain conditions, and on the other hand with EU citizens who usually have free access to the local labour market.





Our 43 trainees in 2023 (34 female, 8 male, 1 diverse) come from eleven different countries of origin. The EU citizens within our target group are mostly people from Southern and Eastern European countries such as Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. Among the third-country nationals we support, the largest group in 2022 were people from Nigeria. However,

some also came from China and other third countries. Clients from the Middle East region were also more strongly represented in 2022.

Our aim is to support these people in building a new, freely chosen career. However, as many of our trainees do not have a work permit on the Austrian labour market - at least not yet - we have focused on low-threshold workshops and training in the initial support phase.

## WHICH AREAS ARE THE FOCUS OF OUR ACTIVITIES?

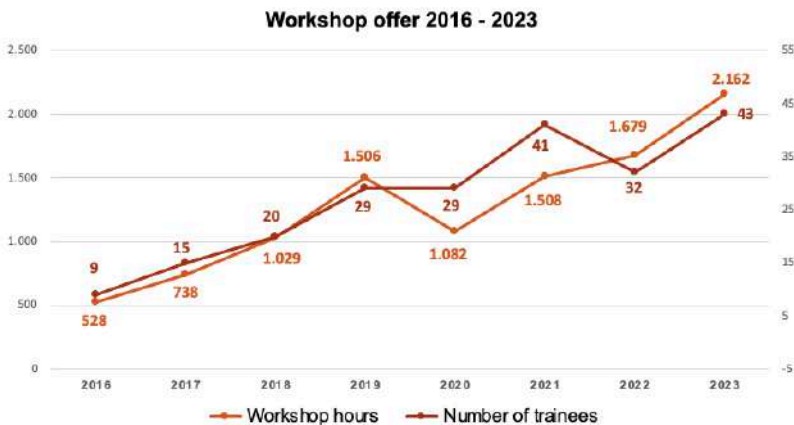
For people who have experienced exploitation, who have been threatened and deprived of their rights, it is often a long road to free themselves from these conditions of dependency and build a new life. For many, the first step is to slowly find their way back into a regular everyday life after their traumatizing experiences. This is where our training courses and workshops come in. Participants get the opportunity to work on their interests in a safe and personal environment, but also to train core skills for the job market such as punctuality, reliability and teamwork. The aim is to strengthen social skills, but also to provide a regular daily structure and gradually increase resilience. Ultimately, it is important that the trainees gain the confidence to shape and master their own lives again and to be able to earn their own living in a new professional environment.

## A) WORKSHOPS TO PREPARE FOR THE JOB MARKET

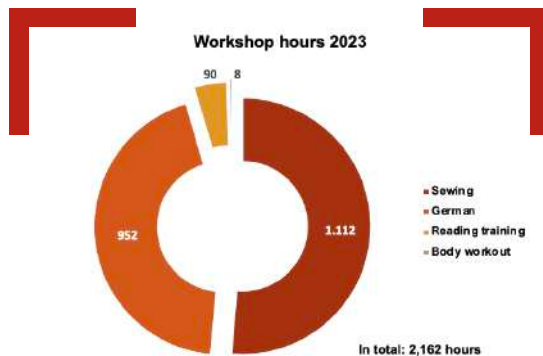
Our sewing workshops, which have been held regularly since 2016, are still a core part of our service offer. The trainees learn to make a variety of bags, rucksacks and accessories of all kinds. Participants agree in advance how often they would like to come. They can take part without any previous knowledge, start with producing very simple items and gradually develop the skills to master complex workpieces. In the process, they also develop teamwork skills and a new sense of self-confidence. Above all, the clients find an environment of security and appreciation here.



In 2023, a total of 2,162 workshop hours were offered as part of the HOPE FOR THE FUTURE training program, a new record in our association's history. The trend over the last eight years speaks for itself. In 2023, we were also able to support more clients than ever before.



With 1,112 workshop hours, our sewing workshop area was the most extensive part of our workshop range in 2023. Our range of German lessons also increased considerably and amounted to 952 hours in 2023. In addition, reading training was also established as a regular and important area with a total of 90 hours.



In January 2023, we started to offer sewing workshops also on Fridays, which means they are now offered 5 days a week. As part of these sewing workshops, clients also have the opportunity to train on our own embroidery machine. This allows a variety of work processes and working methods to be practiced. The German program also runs from Monday to Friday throughout the year, with the exception of the Christmas vacations and one month's vacation in the summer. Clients agree with us individually how often they can come each week.

In order to do something for their physical fitness, our clients were able to take part in body workout sessions offered by a volunteer. We always try to ensure, that our offer is geared towards the needs of the clients we support.

By the way: our clients create wonderful, individual products in the sewing workshops, which you can purchase from us at any time via our web store. You can find a wide range of products at [hftf.at/shop](http://hftf.at/shop).



We were also able to add two employees to the team in 2023, especially in the area of sewing workshops: Oksana and Emese. They both contribute very well to the team as sewing and embroidery trainers, but also with their language and social work skills. But let's hear from them directly:



“My name is Oksana Topikha. I was born and grew up in Ukraine. I am now 42 years old, divorced and the mother of an adult daughter called Kateryna, who is 19 years old. When the war broke out in Ukraine, my daughter and I fled to Vienna, where we have been living for almost two years now. Many people have supported us here, for which I am deeply grateful.

I am a devout Christian, trust in Jesus Christ and like to help other people. My profession is dressmaking, and it has always been my dream to train apprentices and pass on my knowledge to them. When Andrea offered me the opportunity to volunteer with „Hope for the Future“, I accepted without hesitation. At „Hope for the Future“ I have met many friendly and sincere people who support and stand by us. It is a great honour for me to be part of this team and to be able to help other people. Because God teaches us to love and serve one another, and his commandments guide my life.“



„My name is Emese Bogad, I’m from Hungary and I’m 56 years old. My vocation is to reach out to women in prostitution and show them alternatives and ways out for a new life. I have been part of the social work team at Herzwerk since October 2022. I regularly go on outreaches in the red-light district and advise and support Hungarian-speaking women. Since January 2023, I have also been working part-time as a sewing trainer at Hope for the Future. I also use my language skills to help translate for the Hungarian-speaking clients if necessary.“

## B) INTEGRATION IN THE LABOR MARKET AND SEARCH FOR JOB AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

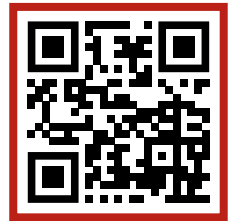
As soon as a person is ready for the step of integration into the job market after completing the job preparation training through HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, we also provide a wide range of follow-up support. We help with preparing application documents and assist people in preparing for their job interviews. We also help them choose an apprenticeship and apply for it.

The EVI „Empowerment through Vocational Integration“ project was a real „game changer“, helping us to make much better progress in the area of integration into the job market. Further details can be found further down in this report. We are delighted that a total of seven of our clients were able to find a job in 2023, five of them as part of the 2-year EVI project co-funded by the EU.

## C) PUBLIC RELATIONS AND NETWORKING

As an organization that works directly with those affected, we are very aware that human trafficking, forced prostitution and the exploitation of people in various other sectors unfortunately also exist in Austria. However, this is still a marginal topic in the media in our country. It is therefore very important to us to continuously draw attention to the issue and raise awareness among many stakeholders, be it through social media posts, blog articles or other informational contributions.

On our association's own website alone, 51 articles went live in 2023 in at least two languages (German and English). They provide information on a wide range of topics in the field of human trafficking or prostitution. We cordially invite you to browse [hftf.at/blog](https://hftf.at/blog) and gain new insights into the respective topics.



With 268 Facebook posts and 201 Instagram posts, we were again very active on social media. We were also represented on LinkedIn with 165 posts. We are supported in this area by many volunteers who help us write articles or create clips, reels or photos and graphic contributions.

Of course, we also want to stay up-to-date ourselves and network with others nationally and internationally in order to achieve more for our target group. We are an active member of the Austrian platform against exploitation and human trafficking, as well as the German platform „Together against human trafficking“. We also took part in a conference of the Austrian Task Force on Human Trafficking on October 19, 2023. The theme of the conference was „Boundaries and frontiers in human trafficking“.

As part of the „EVI“ project described in more detail below, we have also increased our contacts with various educational and support institutions and continued to build our employer network. HOPE FOR THE FUTURE has also been a member of a Viennese subgroup of the BNI (Business Network International) for around a year.

In December 2024, HOPE FOR THE FUTURE was also part of a press conference which aimed at pointing out gaps in the care system for our clients, but also made clear that there are many NGOs out there working for the benefit for those affected by human trafficking or forced prostitution without any funding or contributions from the public sector.



# FACTS AND FIGURES 2023



**2,162** workshop hours  
(work preparation training)



**43** clients (34 female, 8 male, 1 diverse)



**52** volunteers contributed around  
**2,870** volunteer hours



**7** clients were able to find a job  
through us



**51** blog articles in 2 languages  
(German/ English)



**37** events with sales table or  
information contribution from  
HOPE FOR THE FUTERE

Over EUR **148,600,-**  
in donations



**268** Facebook posts



**201** Instagram posts



**165** LinkedIn posts

# REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2023 - EVENTS

In 2023, we felt again blessed with many opportunities to talk to people about the goals and work of HOPE FOR THE FUTURE at a wide variety of events, to discuss the issues of human trafficking and prostitution or to offer our products from the workshops for sale.

On a total of 37 occasions, either a short keynote speech about HOPE FOR THE FUTURE was given or a sales stand was set up where products from the workshops and information flyers were offered. Furthermore, a HOPE FOR THE FUTURE team member was able to report competently and courageously about our work. This corresponds to an average of more than 3 events per month.



Nine of these opportunities were in the church sector (e.g. as part of church services, prayer evenings or pastors' meetings). Ten opportunities arose in the context of business networking events or in the context of events or sales days at business network partners. For example, we were able to provide information about our work during comedy evenings at an IBIS hotel. We were also able to provide input and set up a sales stand at a total of eight conferences and larger events, such as the 10th anniversary celebrations of SOLWODI Austria, the "Mütternander" conference (an event for mums), the Meet & Refresh

women's retreat and several events surrounding the European Day against Human Trafficking (18th October).



Another special highlight was that Andrea Staudenherz, as chairwoman and founder of HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, was awarded the Women's Prize 2023 by the Soroptimists of the Soroptimist International Club Melk Colomania in recognition of the fact that she supports women in difficult life circumstances in making a new start with HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. The award was presented on June 24, 2023 as part of a performance of the stage play „Kassandra“ at the Summer Games Melk.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE has of course also organized some events of its own. On June 4, 2023, a charity matinee for the association took place at Cafe Prückel. The music performance was covered by Clemens Schaller. Poetry slammer Adina Wilcke also performed one of her poems. In addition, an Open House day was organized twice in 2023 together with our partner association Herzwirk, where visitors were informed about current developments and provided with culinary delights, as well as being able to purchase sewing products from HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.



We also held four home parties again this year. These are also a good multiplier opportunity for our topics and concerns and - as we still don't have our own sales outlet - provide a good opportunity to buy bags - either as gifts or for your own use. Would you like to find out more? Have a look at our website.



# A BIG THANK YOU!

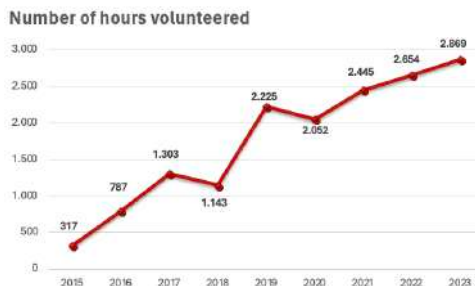
A big thank you goes to our many helpers in the various workshops, who also lead many of the sewing sessions, offer language or reading training or support our trainees in various ways. Many are also involved behind the scenes, whether in social media, IT, photography, fundraising or preparing events. Without these dedicated people, the work of HOPE FOR THE FUTURE would be undoable.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE has now been able to employ several people on a part-time or marginal basis. Many other courageous helpers also work for HOPE FOR THE FUTURE on a voluntary basis without any monetary remuneration. You can see part of the team here:



With a total of 2,869 hours, an incredible amount of volunteer work was once again carried out in 2023 by a remarkable 52 helpers. Some of them even reached over 100 volunteer hours a year.

At HOPE FOR THE FUTURE's General Assembly in March, two long-standing and loyal volunteers, Mrs. Janke Staudenherz and Mrs. Jutta Schönemann, were made honorary members of the association in recognition of their outstanding achievements. Over the past few years, both ladies have volunteered over 500 hours each as trainers and in the care of clients. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for this special commitment!



# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS AND FOCUS AREAS 2022-2023

## PROJECT EVI - EMPOWERMENT THROUGH VOCATIONAL INTEGRATION

The project abbreviation EVI stands for „Empowerment for victims of gender-based violence through Vocational Integration“.

Together with the German alliance „Gemeinsam gegen Menschenhandel“, the Karlsruhe-based organization „The Justice Project“, the Nuremberg-based organization „Parakaleo“ and the Viennese association „Herzwerk“, we worked in 2022 and 2023 to give women affected by violence who came out of prostitution a more realistic chance of work integration outside of prostitution.

Currently, many women who experience violence in prostitution and want to leave fall through the existing support networks. Many of them have a migration background and struggle with language barriers and a variety of social obstacles. A pooling of resources and good cooperation between actors in the public sector and civil society is needed to open doors to the labour market for those affected and to create the conditions for successful integration into the labour market..

Already in 2022, our first project year, the aim was to establish a good support network in cooperation with social and educational institutions, but also to encourage employers to provide jobs and apprenticeships for our target group. Development guidelines for clients were also created, as well as training materials, for example, to better support potential employers in these client integration processes. In 2023, these networks were built and expanded further, and the various materials were tested and evaluated. Together with our project partner Herzwerk, we also succeeded in integrating a total of 8 people into jobs at the project location in Vienna in the context of project EVI.



The project results were presented at a final conference in Nuremberg in September 2023. We are of course happy to share our experiences and project materials with other organizations that are committed to similar causes. The materials are available for download in German and English on the project website [www.evi-europe.eu](http://www.evi-europe.eu). We would like to thank all EVI project organizations and cooperation partners in the EVI network for the successful collaboration, as well as the EU for co-financing the project.



Funded by the  
European Union



## EMBROIDERY PROJECT

After an initial pilot phase in 2022, our embroidery project has since developed further. It has become a fixed, well-integrated part of our sewing workshops.

In 2023, we were not only able to embroider our own products sewn in the workshops and offer them for sale. We were also able to process a considerable number of embroidery orders commissioned by companies, organisations, and private individuals.

Our long-term goal is to create at least one job for a client in this area. But even now, this new activity is already very valuable to be able to offer a more varied range of workshops.

If you are also interested in having products such as bags, aprons or similar accessories embroidered with your slogan or logo, please get in touch with us. Of course, as an organization, HOPE FOR THE FUTURE also plays its role as an awareness-raiser here. We have embroidered our handmade tote bags with slogans that specifically address the issues of human trafficking, freedom and human rights. How about a freedom statement like this the next time you go shopping or take the subway?



[hftf.at/shop](https://hftf.at/shop) -

Thanks for your wearing and caring!!

## DONATIONS AND SUPPORT

### FINANCIAL REVIEW 2023



The year 2023 was once again characterized by relatively high inflation and cost increases. At the same time, we were able to guarantee a professional and stable coaching and support team thanks to the EU funding for the EVI project as well as numerous successful funding campaigns. Even though there were some very difficult phases at times, we were able to close the year in good financial shape, not least thanks to your loyal donations around Christmas. Thank you to all of you who supported us by donating money or buying products from the sewing and embroidery workshops.

Your donations are also tax-deductible. Since September 2022, HOPE FOR THE FUTURE also proudly carries the Austrian Donation Seal of Approval. So, you can be sure that we use every Euro thoughtfully and wisely for the benefit of our clients.

### FINANCIAL STABILITY - A KEY TO SUSTAINABLE CARE

Financially speaking, 2023 was not an easy year, partly because the amount of donations per month often varies greatly, but also due to the general inflation of the last two years. We will therefore continue to work in 2024 to ensure that our finances are as stable as possible. As it is very difficult to plan a budget for individual donations, we are very pleased to have donors who support us regularly.

In 2023, the shopping centre “Westfield Donauzentrum” provided us with a highly visible display with donation opportunities in the shopping area. We are also very grateful for opportunities like this.



Of course, we are also trying to move more in the direction of setting up a social business, i.e. launching initiatives that can be self-sustaining in the long term. However, some of our activities, especially the training courses, are dependent on donations, as we want to continue to provide these services to our clients free of charge. So, THANK YOU ALL for supporting these initiatives.

Would you like to become a supporting member of the association? You support HOPE FOR THE FUTURE with an annual membership fee of EUR 60 and receive a 10% discount on purchases in our online store as well as a small welcome gift.

If you are interested, please contact us: [office@hopeforthefuture.at](mailto:office@hopeforthefuture.at)

## How YOU can support HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

### DONATION

- As a donor or supporting member of our association
- As a sponsor of donations in kind

### PURCHASE

- By purchasing our accessories
- By ordering commissioned work (bags with your logo/ slogan)

### WORK

- As a volunteering staff member
- As a future employer for our clients

# HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

## FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

### Source of funds:

#### I. Donations

a) undedicated donations	103,828.37 €
b) dedicated donations	44,817.98 €

#### II. Membership Fees

5,925.00 €

#### III. Operating income

a) operating income from public funds	0.00 €
b) other operating income	0.00 €

#### IV. Subsidies and grants from the public sector (EU-grant)

0.00 €

#### V. Other revenue

a) asset management (income from capital)	3.67 €
b) other revenue	31,238.48 €

#### VI. Release of liability items of donations or subsidies not yet used for their intended purpose

0.00 €

#### VII. Release of reserves

0.00 €

#### VIII. Annual loss

3,164.09 €

**188,977.59 €**

### Use of funds:

#### I. Services for statutory purposes

a) from donations	99,346.67 €
b) from public subsidies (EU grant 2022)	44,436.67 €
b) from other means	31,238.48 €

#### II. Fundraising

3,173.18 €

#### III. Administrative expenses

10,782.59 €

#### IV. Other expenses, if not listed under I. to III.

0.00 €

#### V. Allocation to liability items for donations that have not yet been used for their intended purpose

0.00 €

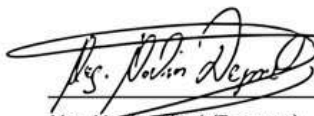
#### VI. Addition to reserves

0.00 €

**188,977.59 €**



Andrea Staudenherz (Chairwoman)



Mag. Martin Dejrnec (Treasurer)



# IMPRESSUM

## Published by:

**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE** - Organisation supporting people in prostitution and survivors of trafficking in human beings

## Contact us:

office@hopeforthefuture.at

www.hopeforthefuture.at

## Board members:

### Andrea Staudenherz

Chairwoman and founder of Hope for the Future  
Representative for fundraising and use of donations  
+43 677 61481500  
andrea.staudenherz@hopeforthefuture.at



### Mag. Renate Bárány

Managing Director under commercial law,  
Secretary and data protection officer  
renate.barany@hopeforthefuture.at



### Mag. Martin Dejmek

Treasurer  
martin.dejmek@hopeforthefuture.at



### Gabriela Filip

Deputy Treasurer  
gabriela.filip@hopeforthefuture.at



## Bank account:

Account holder: HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Bank details: IBAN: AT72 2011 1826 6412 2100 | BIC: GIBAATWWXXX

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE was founded on January 26 th , 2015. We have been operating as a charitable non-profit association since 2015 and finance our work largely through donations.

**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE** is on the list of recipients of tax-privileged donations in Austria. Registration number: SO 12762

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE has also been granted the Austrian Donation Seal of Approval since 2022.







A sunset over the ocean with the sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, with some clouds. The water is dark blue with white foam from the waves.

## **HOPE FOR THE FUTURE**


Organisation supporting people in prostitution  
and survivors of trafficking in human beings


address: Badgasse 1-7/5/4, A-1090 Vienna


phone +43 677 61481500

e-mail: [office@hopeforthefuture.at](mailto:office@hopeforthefuture.at)

web: [www.hopeforthefuture.at](http://www.hopeforthefuture.at)

 Hope for the Future

 [hopeforthefuture\\_vienna](https://www.instagram.com/hopeforthefuture_vienna)

 [linkedin.com/company/hopeforthefuture/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hopeforthefuture/)

ZVR-number: 835728727