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Granting temporary residence in Croatia to victims of trafficking in human beings

Granting temporary residence to victims of trafficking in human beings is regulated by the Foreigners Act. It is prescribed that temporary residence can be granted under humanitarian reasons, and the fact that a person is a victim of trafficking in human beings qualifies as a stipulated reason for granting temporary residence. In order for a person to be granted temporary residence under humanitarian reasons as a victim, he or she must firstly be identified as such. Upon identification, such a person has a right to enter a program for help and protection. Temporary residence is granted for a period up to one year and can be renewed if the person still has the status of a victim. This can happen in the case that it is not safe to return the person to its country of origin, especially when the victim is a minor. During his or her stay, the victim has certain rights prescribed by the Foreigners Act. The purpose of this paper is to analyze the procedure regarding the granting of temporary residence to victims, check for flaws in the system and to propose improvements.

Keywords: temporary residence, victim, administrative procedure