



Ministry of Social Affairs and
Employment

Exploitation at the workplace



Are you being exploited? Or someone you know? Ask for help!

You may be exploited by your employer.
For instance:

- Being forced to do work that is dangerous or harmful to your health;
- Not being allowed to keep your passport or travel documents;
- Having to pay off a heavy debt to your employer;
- Getting little or no payment for the work you do;
- Being mistreated, blackmailed or threatened;
- Your employer threatens to report that you are in the Netherlands illegally;
- Being unable to go where you like outside working time;
- Not being able to see a doctor or go to hospital if you are ill.

Do two or more of these things apply to you or someone you know? Then it is likely that you are being exploited.

Don't let this happen - ask for help!

Where can you get help?

The Human Trafficking Coordination Centre (CoMensha) can provide you with help and information. Even if you are not sure whether you or someone you know is being exploited. CoMensha is an independent organisation that tells people how they can report problems to the police or file a complaint with the Inspectorate of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. It also arranges shelter for victims of exploitation and human trafficking. Everything you say will be treated in confidence. Email: info@comensha.nl or telephone: 033 448 11 86 (Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.). You can receive information in Dutch or in English.

What are your rights as a victim?

If you are the victim of exploitation or human trafficking, you can make use of the B9 provision under Dutch law.

This gives you the right to:

- A reflection period of three months to decide whether you want to make a complaint. You will not be deported during this time;
- Somewhere to stay, welfare benefits and medical help;
- A temporary residence permit if you help the authorities detect and prosecute suspects. This permit will be valid while the inquiries are going on and during legal action;
- You are also entitled to work in the Netherlands while you hold this residence permit.

More information

If you are being underpaid, or are working under bad conditions, you can also make a complaint to the Inspectie SZW [Inspectorate of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment] via www.inspectieszw.nl or call 0800 – 5151 (free of charge).

Report

Suppose you have information about exploitation or human trafficking, but you can't report this to the police, call anonymously with Meld Misdaad Anoniem 0800-7000.

Do you have any other questions about this brochure, or would you like to order more copies? Call our number: 1400 (Monday to Friday, 8.00 a.m. to 8 p.m.).

Download copies via www.rijksoverheid.nl.

This brochure is also available in other languages.

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