Trafficking in human beings is a form of organized criminality particularly damaging to women trafficked for sexual exploitation. It has received increasing attention of governments, societies, and the international community. The three Baltic states have their share of trafficking while going through an adjustment period after the end of the Soviet era and the re-establishment of their independent statehood in early 1990s. Countries who have emerged from the Soviet legacy suffer a lack of new opportunities in the market economy, affecting hardest the women of the ethnic minorities. Many women have seen no other way but to follow the call of the sex industry at home or abroad, often migrating through illegal migration channels.

Table of Contents:
- Foreword
- Introduction
- Part I - Trafficking in Women in the Baltic States: Legal Aspects
- Part II - Trafficking in Women in the Baltic States: Sociological Module
- Part III - Country Reports: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

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