


CHINA



ORGAN HARVESTING

Organ harvesting is essentially 'killing on demand', which is the selling and transplanting of the organs of victims. The origin of tens of thousands "donor" organs in the People's Republic of China remains completely unclear. More than likely, this is due to thousands of people in China becoming victims of organ harvesting. To the extent of our knowledge, the victims primarily consist of arbitrarily jailed prisoners from Chinese labor camps and 're-education' facilities. Organ harvesting is largely a synonym for the legal expression "organ trafficking", which can be more broadly interpreted. People also become victims of organ harvesting in other countries, especially on the Sinai Peninsula and in India.

At a glance

In the People's Republic of China as well as in several other countries, organs are taken from victims against their will in order to sell the organs illegally. The majority of victims likely die as a result of having their organs removed. Even though evidence is difficult to obtain, there is an abundance of clear indications that thousands of completely innocent people from Chinese labor camps have been 'sentenced' to death in recent years, in order to profitably sell and transplant their organs. 

On the Sinai Peninsula, the victims are refugees from East Africa. In some emerging nations, victims are generally people living in abject poverty who do not understand the consequences of organ removal, and whose desperate situation is exploited. "Organ harvesting" is the colloquial synonym for the formal legal term "organ trafficking". Organ trafficking is internationally banned and forbidden in Germany; however, it continues to play a role for Germany due to 'transplant tourism' in countries like the People's Republic of China.

Where and to what extent does Organ Harvesting take place?

Organ harvesting or evidence of organ harvesting exists in various countries in the world,

especially in China, India, and on the Sinai Peninsula.

People's Republic of China

Organ transplantation in the People's Republic of China is booming, with the number of transplants rising. A distribution system for donor organs as in Europe, or a culture of organ donation, does not exist. Thus, the origin of tens of thousands of organs remains unclear. Numerous pieces of evidence suggest that people were murdered on this scale in order to sell and transplant their organs – indeed, with the involvement and support of government agencies. Thus, the most cases of organ harvesting in the world by far take place in China.

Sinai Peninsula

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), Egypt has become a regional hub of organ trafficking. In 2010, at least 14,000 refugees were brought over the border into Israel by smuggling networks. On their way through Egypt, the refugees and migrants are frequently intercepted by organized criminals and are released only through a ransom. According to the UN Refugee Agency, if family members of the refugees cannot pay a ransom, they are sold to gangs in the northern Sinai, where they often killed and robbed of their organs.

Who are the victims?

Camp prisoners in the People's Republic of China

Today, the People's Republic maintains the largest forced labor camp system in the world. Approximately 1,000 camps are part of the so-called "Laogai" complex. According to various estimates, the Chinese authorities exploit between three and seven million people as slaves – seven days a week, sometimes up to 18 hours a day. Torture and violence, insufficient food and water, sleep deprivation, and the denial of medical care are everyday occurrences for many prisoners.



Harry Wu, a former camp inmate and ISHR board member, as the first to report about the removal of organs from executed prisoners



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Tranparency of Chinese authorities and institutions.

A system of organ donation based on voluntary nature in the People's Republic of China, including a nationwide data base. The European solution Eurotransplant can serve as an example.



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