

THE ECPAT-USA TOURISM CHILD-PROTECTION CODE OF CONDUCT (THE CODE)

The Code is an industry-driven corporate responsibility response to child sex trafficking recognized by [UNICEF/UNWTO/SECO]

The Problem

With the use of online classified ads, child trafficking has moved off the streets and behind the closed doors of local hotel rooms. Youth are targeted and manipulated by pimps who use the rooms as venues to abuse children, knowing that systems are not in place to identify and protect the victims.

The children are transported from city to city via U.S. owned airlines and buses by traffickers. Air travel is also a primary means of transportation for child sex tourists– individuals who travel overseas to sexually exploit local children.

The Solution

To mobilize the travel and tourism industry to implement the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct (The Code). The Code is the only voluntary industry driven set of guidelines focused on helping travel and tourism companies to prevent child sex tourism and trafficking of children. The Code helps companies create programs and policies to identify victims and traffickers so that staff can effectively react. Signatories of The Code are supported by ECPAT-USA to:

- ① Establish a policy and procedures against sexual exploitation of children.
- ② Train employees in children's rights, the prevention of sexual exploitation, and how to report suspected cases.
- ③ Include a clause in contracts throughout the value chain stating a common repudiation and zero tolerance policy of sexual exploitation of children.
- ④ Provide information to travelers on children's rights, the prevention of sexual exploitation of children and how to report suspected cases.
- ⑤ Support, collaborate and engage stakeholders in the prevention of sexual exploitation of children .
- ⑥ Report annually on their implementation of Code related activities.

Join These Organizations in Supporting the Code



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