The scale of modern slavery

According to the Global Slavery Index 2023, an estimated 6.6 in every thousand people were in modern slavery in Hungary at any point in 2021. In other words, 66,000 people experienced forced labour or forced marriage in Hungary in 2021. Hungary ranks 65th globally and 23rd within Europe and Central Asia.
Modern slavery in Hungary
Global Slavery Index 2023
Country Snapshot

Vulnerability to modern slavery
How vulnerable a country’s people are to modern slavery is dependent on a range of factors which reflect the strength of governance, access to basic needs, the level of inequality, disenfranchised groups, and effects of conflict. On a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 being the highest vulnerability to modern slavery, Hungary is rated as 19 and has below average vulnerability for the region. Vulnerability is highest in terms of disenfranchised groups.

Figure 3. Vulnerability of Hungary to modern slavery by dimension of vulnerability, compared to the regional average

Government response to modern slavery
The government of Hungary scored 55 out of 100 in their response to modern slavery. This places the government’s response above the average regional response. Of the five areas of response assessed (milestones), the government has taken most action on addressing risk factors of modern slavery and the least action on addressing risk in government and business supply chains.

Figure 4. Response of the government of Hungary to modern slavery by government response milestone, compared with the regional average

Priority Recommendations for the government of Hungary:

1. Increase the legal age of marriage for males and females to 18 years without exceptions.

2. Ensure support services are available for all victims of modern slavery, regardless of gender, age, nationality, or sexuality.

3. Enact legislation recognising that victims should not be treated as criminals for conduct that occurred while under control of their exploiter and ensure the law is enforced.

For more information on modern slavery, visit the Global Slavery Index 2023 website.