Use Case: Human Trafficking Investigations

Trace perpetrators and accelerate investigations

The situation

Human trafficking and smuggling have become global and profitable industries, victimizing millions of people. These crimes have been referred to as "modern slavery" and they create complex and dynamic issues for law enforcement. According to estimates by the International Labour Organization, in 2021 nearly 50 million people were in situations of modern slavery worldwide every day. These illegal activities generate profits of over US$150 billion annually.[1] Moreover, while bad actors typically recruit, advertise, and monetize their nefarious actions on the dark web, others do it in plain sight on the surface web.

Human trafficking impacts the countries where individuals are being taken from and trafficked into. Beyond the human toll, serious ripple effects occur, including loss of revenue, destabilization of communities, and threats to national security.

Our PAI solution

Human trafficking is difficult to detect — and requires an always-on vigilant approach by law enforcement. Making matters more challenging is the volume of personal data involved in these investigations which requires agents to balance urgency with the victim's right to privacy and confidentiality.

Is there online evidence of humans being trafficked and how do we find the perpetrators?

Babel Street empowers teams with actionable insights to trace unscrupulous human traffickers — potentially leading to rescues and solved cases.

Babel Street's analytics platform offers an AI-enabled cross-lingual, persistent search of thousands of global and regional publicly available information (PAI) sources in over 200 languages to rapidly discover and decipher insights related to human trafficking. Machine learning algorithms monitor for certain keywords and triggers across social media, blogs, and message boards as well as the deep and dark web to uncover explicit ads promoting human trafficking and the communities from which they are generated. Further exploration may identify signals, proximity, and known clusters as warranted. These insights are automatically translated into your native language and delivered in a single pane of glass for deeper analysis.

Mission impact

Human trafficking prevention is essential to saving victims' lives — and promoting everyone's rights to freedom and safety.

PAI DATA SOURCES	DATA STREAMS	FILTERS	KNOWLEDGE
• 50,000+ hyper local & global news sites • Billions of blogs & message boards • 50+ social media/ geographic specific sites • Dark web • Watchlists • Public records • Business registration records • Commercial telemetry data (restrictions apply)	• Entity and brand name variants • VIPs, executives • Domains • Geolocation • Relevant user handles • Phones • Addresses • Emails	• Temporal • Keywords • Exclusions • Intent • Geo vernacular • Language • Regular expressions	• Credible leads • Explicit online ad platforms • Persons of interest (POIs) • Groups of interest (GOIs) • Last known locations • Timelines • Clustered views • Visualization of networks

1 International Labour Organization, "Statistics on forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking," https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/statistics/lang--en/index.htm

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