

ALBANIA

MEET A CHILD

I am Bajram, a Roma refugee in Tirana. I run a little stall at the Korca market selling mobile phone accessories, cigarette-lighters and other small goods. I run the stall for a man whose son, Anton goes to school. I work seven days a week, from 6.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. I want to go to school like Anton. If I am a refugee, can't I go to school?

TOTAL POPULATION
CHILD POPULATION

3,232,000
937,280

Population Reference Bureau -
2004

TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

According to UNICEF about 23% children in the age group 5-14 yrs are involved in child labour

State of World's Children 2005,
UNICEF

In 2000, UNICEF estimated that 31.7 percent of children ages 5 to 14 years in Albania were working in some capacity.

The US Dept.of Labor's 2003
Findings on the Worst Forms of
Child Labour.

Children work much more in rural areas compared to urban cities, 45 percent and 7 percent respectively.

Government of Albania, Multiple
Indicator Cluster Survey
(MICS):Albania, UNICEF,
December 4,2000,33,35.

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION

For the year 2000, the total economically active population was 1,558,000 of which 1,000 were children in the age group of 10-14 yrs. It is estimated that no child of this age group would be economically active by 2010.

ILO, Bureau of Statistics,
Economically Active Population

GENDER RATIO

961 females for 1000 males

CIA, factbook-2005 (Fig is an
estimate for 2005)

CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL

In 2001, 7,200 primary school going age children of 6-9 years were out of school

UNESCO's EFA Global Monitoring
Report 2005

PROGRESS ON PRIMARY EDUCATION MDG

With an EDI of 0.961, the country's level of progress towards ensuring education for all by 2015 is high

UNESCO's EFA Global Monitoring
Report 2005

CHILD SLAVERY

Teenage girls are tricked into sex slavery and trafficked by organized crime rings in Albania

I Abolish, The Anti- Slavery
Portal, Fact Sheet, http://anti-slavery.org/slavery_today.htm

CHILD TRAFFICKING

Albania is a source country for women and children trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation and forced labour largely to Greece and Italy where many victims are further transited to the United Kingdom, France and Netherlands. Albanian children especially ethnic Roma and Egyptian, continued to be trafficked externally for forced begging.

A report published in 2001 estimated that 75 percent of trafficking victims from certain rural regions of Albania were children.

Girls who are trafficked for prostitution tend to come from the rural and remote mountain areas of Albania. Italy is the destination point for the majority of trafficked Albanian children/women. Large numbers of Albanian children may work as child prostitutes in Greece.

According to the Ministry of Public Order, there were 4,000 children trafficked from the country between 1992 and 2000. Children were generally trafficked for forced begging or sexual exploitation. Roma and Egyptian communities were particularly vulnerable due to poverty and illiteracy. Children also were trafficked for begging. Such children often were bought from families, and in a few cases were kidnapped, reportedly for begging or working abroad.

Estimates on the number of Albanian children that are victims of trafficking vary. The Albanian Human Rights Group estimated that minors comprised 25 per cent of trafficking victims.

CHILD PROSTITUTION & PORNOGRAPHY

Trafficking of Albanian children abroad to prostitution or pedophilia rings in Western Europe remains a problem. One study conducted by the Albanian "Hearth" Psycho-Social Center in 2003 estimated that 21 percent of Albanian trafficking victims were minors, between the ages of 14 and 18.

In 2001, an American citizen was arrested at LAX airport in Los Angeles accompanied by three Albanian boys of 8, 13 and 15 years of age respectively. The man was charged with producing, transporting and possessing child pornography. The man had been suspected of producing pornography in Albania by customs authorities in the USA. There is otherwise very little information available on child pornography in Albania.

CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

Children are trafficked for other forms of exploitive labor as well, such as begging and drug dealing.

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in Persons Report 2005

The US Dept. of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004, February 2005

The US Dept. of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

The US Dept. of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

ECPAT CSEC Database, http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp

The US Dept. of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

CHILD SOLDIERS

There were no reports of under 18s serving in the armed forces.

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers, 2004

CHILD LABOUR IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

Children, especially from the Roma community, work on the streets as beggars and vendors; other Albanian children work on farms.

The US Dept.of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.