

# FRORIEP REPRESENTED ONE VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS IN SWITZERLAND

*Posted on 15 April 2020*



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On Thursday 9 April 2020, the First Instance Criminal Court of Geneva has found a contractor in the construction sector guilty of **human trafficking** and profiteering for commercial gain. The contractor was convicted for recruiting and exploiting workers from Eastern European countries on construction sites in Switzerland paying them between CHF 0.20 and CHF 6.50 per hour, making them work 9 -10 hours a day, six days a week, sometimes on Sundays, and housing them in precarious conditions. The accused thereby violated the National Convention applicable in the field of construction, a mandatory law providing for a minimum wage starting at approximately CHF 30.- per hour.

**Froriep represented one of the victims who had filed a complaint. The team included Xenia Rivkin (pictured), Jérôme de Montmollin and Alain Gros. «This judgment is historic because it is the first application of Article 182 of the Criminal Code in the field of labour exploitation since its scope was extended in 2006 to include human trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation», the law firms underlines.**