Chairman Deborah Pryce (OH-15) leads a Congressional Delegation of lawmakers to Greece, Moldova, Albania, and Italy to address trafficking of women and children. Joining Pryce are Representative Kay Granger (TX) and Representative Thelma Drake (VA).

March 28 to April 2, 2005

Pryce visits with Greek non-governmental organizations

Pryce visits with U.S. Ambassador to Greece Charles P. Ries

Pryce visits with young women and girls who have been victims of trafficking and are being helped at a shelter in Athens. The girls are from African countries. The girls are seated between an attorney who helps victims navigate the legal system.

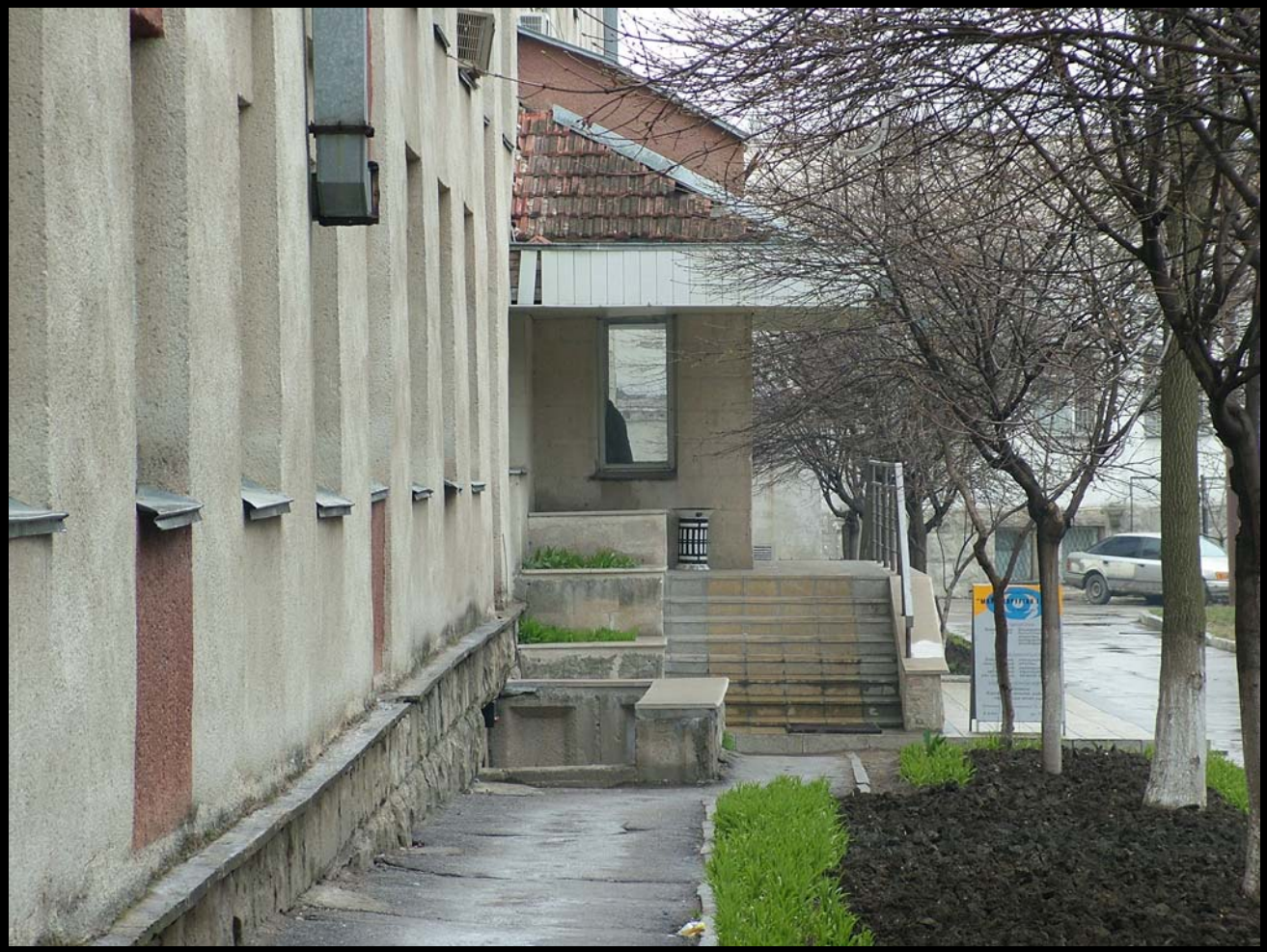
Congresswoman Pryce talks with the doctor who runs the shelter in Athens

Pryce and the delegation meets with Greek government officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Pryce leaving the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Pryce visits a shelter in Chisinau, Moldova where she spent time with young women who had been trafficked to Turkey and sold into slavery. The women escaped and repatriated to Moldova. Pryce is speaking with staff at the shelter.

A view of the inside of the Chisinau shelter



A view of the entrance to the Chisinau shelter

Pryce and the delegation meet with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Straton. His department is responsible for investigating all trafficking-related crimes. The U.S. has funded several training courses and seminars for the unit and has donated equipment such as computers, cars, radios and protective gear to better equip it.

Pryce visits with staff from the United States Agency on International Development (USAID) and Terre des Hommes at the residence of the U.S. Ambassador to Albania Marcie Ries.

Pryce and the delegation meet with non-governmental organizations in Tirana, Albania

Pryce and the delegation visit with school-age children in Durres, Albania at Isuf Ferra School. Some of the children have been trafficked and are being reintegrated into school. Other children have not been trafficked, but they are learning about what they can do to prevent being victims of trafficking.

The delegation leaves the school in Durres, Albania

Pryce and the delegation meet with representatives with the organization End Child Prostitution, Pornography, and Trafficking (ECPAT) as well as from travel agencies in Rome, Italy. The travel industry has partnered with ECPAT to launch information campaigns against child sex tourism in Italy.

Pryce and the delegationvisits the Ministry of Interior in Rome to meet with Anna Maria D'Ascenzo, Head of the Department of Civil Liberties and Immigration.

Pryce shakes hands with Ms. D’Ascenzo