

■ Cars ■ Auto Financing ■ Event Tickets ■ Jobs ■ Real Estate ■ Online Degrees ■ Credit Card Offers ■ Shopping

Search	<input type="text"/>	How do I find it?	Sut
--------	----------------------	-------------------	-----



q  
Iraq Casualties

## Expert: Organ trafficking among surgeons

Posted 1d 18h ago | Comments1 | Recommend3

E-mail | Save | Pri

VIENNA  
(AP)

Top  
transplant

surgeons are collaborating with criminal organ trafficking networks to target the desperate, an expert said Thursday.

"It involves people from the highest level of their profession," said Nancy Scheper-Hughes, founding director of Organs Watch, an ac California, Berkeley.

Some surgeons are "willing to collaborate with the lowest levels of society — with criminal networks, brokers and with kidney hunters

Scheper-Hughes, a professor who also is director of the university's medical anthropology program, made her remarks at the Vienn; has a presence in 10 countries with anthropologists, human rights activists and doctors who volunteer, some of them anonymously,

Illegal organ transplants made headlines recently when a man in India was accused of being the leader of a syndicate that is allegec sometimes from poor laborers held at gunpoint. Indian police have said he headed an illegal organ transplant ring based in the upsc his group sold up to 500 kidneys to clients who traveled to India from around the world in the past nine years.

**FIND MORE STORIES IN:** [United States](#) | [India](#) | [Brazil](#) | [Israel](#) | [Turkey](#) | [University of California](#) | [World Health Organization](#) | [Berk Human Trafficking](#)

"We don't really know how many people are trafficked for organs," Scheper-Hughes said, adding that a conservative estimate for the

Scheper-Hughes said there were "strong cases" documenting coercion in Eastern Europe, Turkey, Israel, India and the United State

"Most victims of kidney trafficking are coerced by need, not by physical force," she said, giving an example from Brazil where people into the pocket of a so-called broker.

"It's driven by desperation," she said.

Trafficking doesn't have to be transnational and can also be found within countries, Scheper-Hughes said.

A December 2007 World Health Organization bulletin included a paper that noted that the shortage of an indigenous supply of organ trade.

"Despite growing awareness of the issue, the reality of the international organ trade is not well understood due to a paucity of data a information," said the paper, written by Yosuke Shimazono.

The Vienna Forum, which wraps up Friday, is being convened by the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.

Share this story:



**Conversation guidelines:** USA TODAY welcomes your thoughts, stories and information related to this article. Please stay on topi appropriate for interested readers across the map.

You must be logged in to leave a comment.[Log in](#)

[Register](#)

[Submit](#)  
**Comments: (1)**



**Jammer97** wrote: 23h 36m ago

Well after all, surgeons have a lifestyle to maintain.....expensive cars, mansions, country clubs etc.....

Sponsored Links

Get listed here

Expert: Organ trafficking among surgeons - USATODAY.com



[| Media Lounge](#) | [Press Room](#) | [Reprints and Permissions](#)

**News Your Way:** [Mobile News](#) | [Email News](#) | [Add USATODAY.com RSS feeds](#) | [Podcasts](#) | [Widget](#)

**Partners:** [USA WEEKEND](#) | [Sports Weekly](#) | [Education](#) | [Space.com](#)

---

Copyright 2008 USA TODAY, a division of [Gannett Co. Inc.](#)

---

Advertisement

