

Hope for Justice has partnered with R3 and Intel by leveraging Conclave's confidential computing technology to aid in the fight against modern slavery.

R3's Conclave is a platform that implements confidentiality by design, leveraging Intel Software Guard Extensions (SGX). With Conclave, organizations can prove to their customers that both critical code and data remain protected and can't be tampered with throughout every stage in the data lifecycle.

Hope for Justice is a critical non-profit organization working to end modern slavery and human trafficking while protecting the human rights of victims and survivors. Their multi-disciplinary model is based on four pillars: preventing exploitation, rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society.

Whether building confidential computing applications or scaling secure workloads on demand, Conclave provides the tools to easily develop and host privacy-first services, both on-premises and in the cloud.

Challenges

Latest estimates from the International Labor Organization indicate that 50 million people are living in a situation of modern slavery in the world today. Unfortunately, the number of people in modern slavery has risen significantly in the last five years as a direct result of growing instability in the world, the most salient examples of this being the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. With so many ongoing human trafficking cases and the variety of related services working on them, there exists an increasing number of siloes from existing pools of mass accumulated data.

This data is highly sensitive and valuable as an asset which can be easily exploited if it falls into the wrong hands. Due to the sensitive nature of this underlying data—on top of strict data privacy restrictions—organizations working to combat modern slavery

cannot share case data with each other directly. This means that valuable collaboration between organizations on related cases is virtually impossible.

Government-related organizations dealing with sensitive data have not yet been given the required assurances of confidentiality to instill digital trust, furthering historical reluctance in sharing crucial data. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are also still reluctant to share client data, due to elements of competing for limited funding. Without sharing information on cases, organizations will continue to lack the means to implement critical data analytics to spot hidden and complex patterns of potentially criminal behavior, especially as criminals grow far more sophisticated in their methods and engrain exploitation within day-to-day supply chains.

Solution

Hope for Justice addressed this problem by building a Private Data Exchange (PDEx) pilot program. By leveraging Conclave's confidential computing capabilities, they have created a tool whereby organizations can securely submit data related to human trafficking cases and find commonalities, or matches, across that shared data. This is all done without directly exposing any of this sensitive data to other participants.

This allows these organizations to collaborate on existing cases and to gain important insights such as geographical hotspots and prevalent methods of human trafficking.

How does it work?

- Address matching reveals that two separate cases listing the same property as their address.
 This could mean that a property is owned or operated by perpetrators and/or an organized crime group. This could trigger an investigation into the property owners, who may be complicit.
- Perpetrator name matching reveals that the same individual has been involved in the trafficking of more than one person. This could be indicative of a serial offender or an organized crime group, triggering an investigation.
- Family name matching reveals that two victims of the same family have been trafficked separately from each other. This presents an opportunity to investigate their trafficking experiences further as linked, and perhaps reunite the family.
- Lower-level matching information, such as type
 of trafficking, location and industry, that doesn't
 present an active investigation opportunity but
 could reveal other critical trends. For example,
 there could be multiple cases of forced labor
 in the construction industry in an area, which
 triggers a series of outreach efforts to the
 sector as a whole—such as through training
 opportunities with construction companies or
 compliance boards.

The Future

The Private Data Exchange (PDEx) pilot is the first step in proving the capabilities of Conclave in addressing this issue and will allow Hope for Justice to recruit other organizations and charities working within this space to participate on the exchange. Now organizations can pool sensitive case data into a secure application leveraging matching algorithms which foster cross-organizational collaboration. This is a huge step forward in overcoming obstacles that have been hindering the industry so far.

We cannot lose the technology race against human trafficking. That is why we are so pleased that the Private Data Exchange platform has the potential to revolutionize how the sector collaborates across borders and overcomes issues surrounding data privacy and confidentiality. For the first time, civil society, governments, UN agencies and businesses can truly collaborate to make technology a force that will help to end human trafficking.

Tim Nelson, CEO of Hope for Justice

About R3

R3 is a leading provider of enterprise technology and services for the development of multi-party solutions that enable direct, digital collaboration in regulated industries where trust is critical.

Learn more at www.r3.com and www.conclave.net.

