

# TAMPEP

European Network for HIV/STI  
Prevention and Health Promotion  
Among Migrant Sex Workers



## THIS ISSUE

- 1 TAMPEP objectives
- 1 Results and products of TAMPEP VIII
- 3 The impact of TAMPEP
- 8 Sex work in Europe today: a short overview
- 30 TAMPEP recommendations
- 36 TAMPEP resources
- 37 The TAMPEP Network

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## TAMPEP VIII Newsletter 2 November 2009

**TAMPEP**  
European Network on  
HIV/STI Prevention and Health Promotion  
among Migrant Sex Workers

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic,  
Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany,  
Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania,  
Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland,  
Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain,  
Switzerland, United Kingdom.



This publication originates from the project TAMPEP (European Network for HIV/STI Prevention and Health Promotion among Migrant Sex Workers) which has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Public Health Programme.

## TAMPEP is a network of community-based service providers and sex workers' organisations operating in 25 European countries

The main objective of TAMPEP is to reduce the HIV vulnerability of migrant and mobile sex workers through the development, exchange, promotion and implementation of appropriate policies and interventions across Europe, and specifically:

1. To consolidate and further **develop targeted HIV/STI prevention measures**, health promotion interventions for migrant and mobile sex workers in Europe.
2. To **examine and analyse the situation of prostitution in Europe** based on mapping of the prostitution scene and legal framework on migration, sex work and HIV policies and the identification risk factors and levels of vulnerability that determine the barriers to access to prevention measures and care.
3. To **facilitate the sharing of knowledge**, experience, and good practices among service providers and community-based organisations **on pan-European level**.
4. To **consolidate and enhance the network of 25 countries in Europe** by strengthening their capacity for effective interventions within a sub-regional and cross border cooperation model.
5. To **promote human rights and equality in public health policies and accessibility** for migrant and mobile sex workers, by developing and promoting a holistic strategy underpinned by the principles of respect and inclusion of sex workers.

## TAMPEP 8

The phase VIII of the TAMPEP Programme run from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 to December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. The leading organisation is the **TAMPEP International Foundation**, in the Netherlands. The TAMPEP VIII Programme consisted of eight Work Packages (WP).

### WP 1 | Coordination of the project

Effective coordination has consolidated and strengthened the TAMPEP network, and enabled the monitoring of activities to ensure a European added value. The coordination has been done on three different levels:

- **National level**, by the National Coordinator within each of the partner countries
- **Regional level**, by the Regional Coordinators within the shared coordination of WP8
- **European level**, by the Steering Committee and the Coordination Centre

In two years, six Steering Committee meetings and four pan-European meetings with partners took place, ensuring the effective implementation of the work programme, exchange of skills and capacity building among all partners.

The fact that the majority of the partners are sex work projects and providers of low-threshold services contributed directly to the sharing of knowledge, enhancing the capacity of the Network and making it possible to carry out the specific objectives of the different WP.

### WP 2 | Dissemination of the results

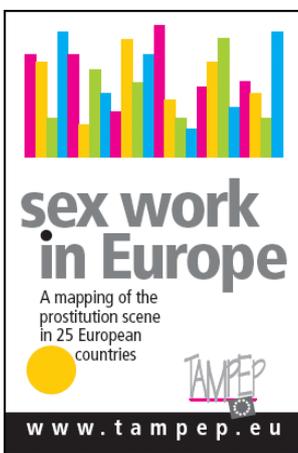
The aim was to disseminate good practices guidelines, on local, national, European, and international level, through reports, newsletters, and the TAMPEP

website. As well as through consultations, articles and interviews, technical and policy advice for international agencies and national authorities. Moreover, all TAMPEP resources and the final publications of the TAMPEP 8 project will be spread on pan-European and international levels.

Over these two years, the activities and results of TAMPEP have been presented at various international policy forums, in addition to international and national advocacy work undertaken around the needs of sex workers.

### WP 3 | Evaluation of the project

An evaluation plan was in place. The indicators enabled an examination of the process and methodology, the results and products, the outcomes and the impact of the activities. Each Work Package Coordinator (WPC) was asked to provide an interim and final process evaluation report which was incorporated into the Interim Report and Final Evaluation Report.



### WP 4 | Prostitution mapping

The two main objectives of the mapping in 25 EU countries were to:

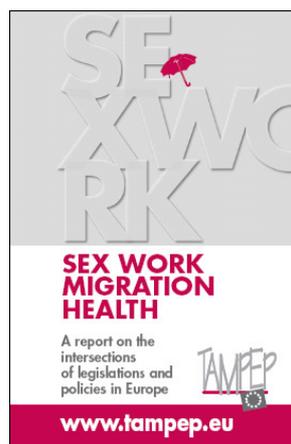
- **Collect qualitative and quantitative data** regarding sex workers nationalities, distribution, settings, mobility, living and working conditions, risk behaviour and vulnerability factors.
- **Observe and compare changes and trends** regarding the sex industry, the working conditions of sex workers and barriers to access services.

TAMPEP 26 national partners collected data by distributing questionnaires to NGOs, Health and Social Services dealing with sex workers in their country. The questionnaire was common to the 25 countries, which allowed comparable data and the use of a specially developed online data-base.

The national responses were used to draft 25 National Mapping Reports. The about 380 responses of the National Mappings formed then the basis for the European Mapping Report.

Results of both the National and European Mappings are presented in the report **SEX WORK IN EUROPE | a mapping of the prostitution scene in 25 European countries**. The European Mapping Report aims to identify changing trends and tendencies in relation to sex work and the living and working conditions of female, male and transgender sex workers, including migrant sex workers.

The **Sex Work in Europe** mapping report highlights how the need for substantive change has never been more pressing if we are committed to providing comprehensive services to sex workers that respectfully respond to their needs. Concrete recommendations are made throughout the report which, when taken, would vastly improve the health and well-being of national and migrant sex workers.



### WP 5 | Juridical and policy assessment

The juridical and policy assessment reviews and analyses the legal frameworks regarding migration, prostitution and health in 25 EU countries.

All 26 partners collected information and analysed the consequences of national policy on the living and working conditions of sex workers, as well as the existent barriers for sex workers to access health and social services. The 25 national reports enabled the analysis and a comparison of the different systems in Europe.

The European Juridical and Policy Report **SEX WORK | MIGRATION | HEALTH** is a report on the intersections of legislations and policies regarding sex work, migration and health in Europe.

The aim of this European report is to provide transparency about the legislation on sex work throughout Europe and its impact on the human and policy rights of sex workers, including their access to public health services. The report assesses legislation and policy developments on sex work, migration and health policies on a national and European level and includes a critical evaluation of the various approaches relating to the interrelated issues of sex work, migration and health.



### WP 6 | A manual on good practice

**WORK SAFE IN SEX WORK, the Manual for Capacity Building**, is a guidance which brings examples of about 60 good practice activities which were already carried out by the TAMPEP partner organisations or by others in their country.

The activities cover five areas: outreach work (for sex workers working indoor, outdoor, in border areas and through internet), peer education, campaigns for clients, advocacy campaigns and miscellaneous (including examples of counselling centres, training modules and development of materials).

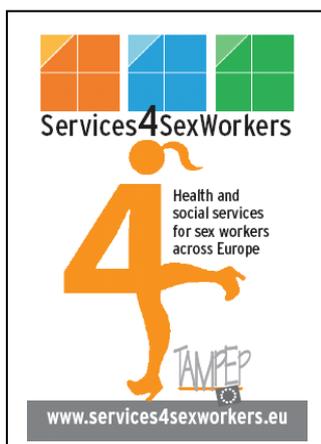
TAMPEP had three criteria to consider an activity of good practice:

- That sex workers were directly involved in the activity
- That the activity had been already evaluated
- That the activity is transferable and adaptable to other contexts

The aim of WSSW is to spread and stimulate good practice by presenting different models of intervention of how to reach sex workers and their clients, how to employ peer education or to advocate for sex workers' rights.

The manual **WORK SAFE IN SEX WORK** has three main objectives:

- To present examples of good practice for health and social service providers offering care for migrant and mobile sex workers working in indoor and outdoor settings.
- To present examples of different experiences of HIV/STI prevention strategies and introduce and facilitate the implementation of innovative tools for specific outreach methodology, peer education, advocacy and client campaigns.
- To increase and expand good practice actions targeting sex workers and their clients.



### WP 7 | Internet Directory

The website [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu) presents a directory of about 380 health and social services available for sex workers across Europe. [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu) informs sex workers, health and social workers about respectful and non-

discriminatory support available across Europe.

In 2008, national partners carried out service mappings using a standardised questionnaire in order to collect the necessary data.

Apart of the service directory, the website brings also information on prostitution, migration and health legislation in 25 EU countries, information provided by WP5 (Policy Assessment).

The website is very user friendly and easily searchable by location or type of service required. The directory is in English, French, Spanish and Russian.

### WP 8 | Cross Border Prostitution

Prostitution occurring at or near EU borders required a special assessment. Four regions were therefore identified and four pilot projects were established in order to assess and report on sex workers' working and living conditions, mobility, the quality and quantity of existing health and social services, outreach activities, women's shelters, etc.

The four pilot projects were developed in 2009 in the borders regions of the following countries:

- **North** | Germany and Poland
- **South** | Italy and Slovenia
- **East** | Austria and Czech Republic
- **West** | Netherlands and Belgium



**All the TAMPEP 8 resources are available from the members of the TAMPEP network and at [www.tampep.eu](http://www.tampep.eu)**

## The impact of TAMPEP

**A**t the second General meeting of TAMPEP 8, which was held in Porto, Portugal, in September 2009, members of the network reported the extent of the impact of TAMPEP on a national and international scale. Hereunder is a summary of the national coordinators evaluation of the impact of TAMPEP which analyses in what extend TAMPEP makes the difference, reasons why and how the network's capacities have been strengthened to respond to the needs of sex workers from a human rights perspective, and a description of new activities that have been realised and promoted through the TAMPEP programme.

### AUSTRIA

- **On cultural mediation, outreach and workshops:** continuous provision of services to migrant sex workers in Austria, support, empowerment and network
- **For strengthening of the national network and platform:** sensitisation of (social and health) support services, coordinated lobby activities, stronger media presence
- **On newsletter, seminars, national and transnational conferences and networking:** awareness raising and advocacy, involvement of institutional actors, fostering understanding of the interrelation of sex work and migration
- **As national focal point:** information centre regarding sex work and migration in Austria, member of various trans-/national expert committees, working groups and networks
- **In 2007 & 2008:** Campaign for sex workers' rights. LEFÖ carried out two nationwide advocacy campaigns for the rights of sex workers (2007, 2008). This increased the political discussion of sex work, sensitised the media and strengthened the national network. Also, cooperation with the self-organisation of

sex workers in Austria was increased through the activities of the campaigns. The campaigns drew on the *Declaration of the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe* and the *Sex Workers in Europe Manifesto* to highlight the need to protect sex workers' human rights and to point to the transnational context of the national activity.

■ **In 2007 & 2008:** Member of the National Task Force against Trafficking/Working group on prostitution

■ **In 2009:** Member of intergovernmental working group on sex work.

## BELGIUM

■ **For Espace...P:** it was very important to take part in different work package activities of the TAMPEP 8 programme.

■ **On legislation and prostitution mapping:** Sex Work projects gained a thorough insight on the Belgian legislation and policies thanks to the national assessment and survey on sex work and an overview of the situation of sex workers and sex work on a national level including the possibilities and the barriers of accessing services across the country.

■ **On good practices:** Professionals of *Espace ...P* analysed their projects and practices during the elaboration of the *EU Manual on Good Practices in Work with and for Sex Workers* and found it to be a very instructive experience. *Espace...P* makes regular use of a variety of TAMPEP materials destined to sex workers.

■ **As national focal point:** working with other Belgian organisations was also a very positive experience. This activity reinforced the local network and enhanced knowledge sharing of TAMPEP methodology and its materials on HIV/STI prevention.

■ **On European level:** the TAMPEP European network is an open gate for the exchange of information on sex workers' situation in other European countries.

## BULGARIA

■ **For HESED:** TAMPEP encouraged new outreach activities. HESED, the local organisation, started regular outreach work for sex workers in the most popular tourist regions.

■ **As national focal point and for the networking:** coordination, training and consultancy to 8 organisations that form the local network.

- Distribution of the TAMPEP CD-Rom resources to different organisations.

- Develop collaboration strategies with the Regional Public Health Care Centre while carrying out HIV/ STI testing with the Mobile Medical Unit.

- Support given to an organisation that advocates for the human rights of sex workers. An active member of a sex workers' group created this organisation.

■ **On workshops and sensitisation:** the organisation and implementation of peer education workshops, campaigns for HIV/AIDS prevention and the fight against violence in sex work.

- Publication of new brochures targeted to sex workers.

- Develop and publish the "*Practical guidelines for outreach work among sex workers*" (within the framework of "*Power of prevention*", a project financed by the MATRA Program);

- Elaboration of guidelines addressed to social workers in different institutions on how to work with highly marginalized groups that are at risk.

■ **European level:** as a member of the TAMPEP network, HESED is one of the partners in a research project, INDOORS, which targets indoor-based sex workers. Other TAMPEP partners in this project come from France, Germany and Italy.

## ESTONIA

■ **For AIDS-I Tugikeskus and for Estonia:** Joining the TAMPEP network has brought important advantages for the organisation and for Estonia:

- The publication of brochures in Russian and Estonian;

- The creation of the website [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu), is a very useful tool for sex workers;

- The elaboration and publication of the *Declaration on the Rights of sex workers in Europe* and the *Sex workers manifesto*, in collaboration with ICRSE

- As the national focal point in Estonia it carries out TAMPEP activity, which was extended to Ida-Virumaa, the border region to Russia.

## FINLAND

■ **For sex workers:** more information of services in other European countries; easier to talk about migration and mobility; better services through outreach & cultural mediation; more information in different languages.

■ **For Pro-tukipiste:** improvement of the individual and organisational level; better practical skills and tools for working with migrant sex workers (consultation and manual on good practices, outreach & peer work, leaflets, CD-Roms, web-pages, etc.); updated overview of migration and policies in Europe; increased reliability among sex workers, authorities and other service providers; TAMPEP helped Pro-tukipiste to be prepared in advance to changes and consequences in policy/ legislation in sex work scene.

■ **For service providers:** raised awareness of vulnerabilities and characteristics of (migrant) sex workers in Finland; TAMPEP leaflets in different languages are largely used by them.

■ **For policy making & advocacy work:** TAMPEP approach and recommendations have been very useful in policy making and advocacy work, because of the emphasis on sex workers rights.

## DENMARK

■ **For the National Board of Social Services:** the Danish service providers found [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu) very useful. It is helpful for migrant female and male sex workers working in Denmark.

It is a useful tool used by professional operators of the *Danish Centre for Research on Social Vulnerability* to show them where and how they can apply for help when they return to their home countries.

TAMPEP materials are widely used in our outreach work in massage parlours.

## FRANCE

■ **For Autres Regards:** TAMPEP has imparted *Autres Regards* a wide and accurate knowledge of the European prostitution, of present and future policy tendencies in Europe and a really good overview of the reality of sex work in European countries.

The network has rendered the exchange of experiences, information and good practices between its members and with other organisations that are not members but have contacts with TAMPEP members.

It has facilitated contact between organisations in countries where sex workers conditions are similar to those in France. The analysis of such conditions was done with the local community and with associations based in migrant sex workers' country of origin.

TAMPEP also serves as a platform to create other networks in Europe with specific points of interest.

■ **For strengthening of the national network:** the TAMPEP national meetings have pulled together a dynamic network of French organisations.

■ **On cultural mediation and outreach:** Thanks to TAMPEP, *Autres Regards* realised how important cultural mediation in outreach work is. Since 2007 cultural mediation plays an important role in the organisation's activity. Outreach work with migrant sex workers has improved thanks to the TAMPEP multilingual information material.

■ **In 2009:** *Autres Regards* presently coordinates INDOOR, a cross-border project on indoor prostitution subsequent to a previous experience on indoor prostitution with its Italian partner. Partners of this actual project are members of TAMPEP.

In conclusion, TAMPEP is a network of motivated organisations thriving in new ideas and new projects.

■ **For France:** TAMPEP is a very good tool for constructive advocacy in France and for accurate and reliable information on sex work in Europe. The network TAMPEP provides a greater visibility of sex workers and their difficulty to have access to their rights and to the health system.

The TAMPEP methodologies, its models of advocacy campaigns and best practices constitute an important contribution for empowerment of the sex workers' project in France.

## FRANCE

■ **For PASTT:** The TAMPEP network has drawn attention on the needs of transgender sex workers on a European level.

■ **As national focal point:** TAMPEP has been really useful on a national level as it gave its support to several activists, by introducing a new, respectful and non-stigmatising language, by strengthening transgender sex workers' self esteem.

Efforts to grant same rights to migrant sex workers and their access to health care have been strengthened and better coordinated. In addition, a debate over their rights to live in the French territory has gained more grounds.

The TAMPEP belief of setting common grounds and giving room to all sex workers has strengthened the sex workers' movement to combat for their rights to health care, security at work and improvement of their life conditions.

■ **For national and trans-national sensitisation campaigns and networking:** the *European Sex Work Conference in Brussels*, in 2005, that was co-initiative of TAMPEP, empowered the sex workers' movement by democratising it. It has therefore been complementary to the work that PASTT was already conducting.

The cross-border network determined the organisation of a meeting in Lille over the situation of imprisoned transgender, their empowerment, HIV prevention and general living conditions in prison. Transgender are now able to organise advocacy campaigns.

TAMPEP gave its support to the national meeting organised in Tille, France by Arc-en-Ciel as well as to the trans-national meeting organised in Faro, Portugal that featured the TAMPEP mainframe on migration, prostitution and HIV prevention.

The advocacy week against transphobia was an inspiration of the weekly advocacy campaigns.

The most important result was the awareness of the NGOs and international bodies over the right to health care for all

are they French or migrant citizens. This had a huge positive impact on the public care network that turned out to be a crucial partner on the fight against HIV, on the assertion of human rights and the acknowledgement and respect of sex workers.

## GERMANY

■ **For Amnesty for Women:** TAMPEP enabled *Amnesty for Women* to be a regular participant of advocacy activities for sex workers' rights on local, national level and European level.

- Since 1993, through TAMPEP's outreach activities, *Amnesty for Women* is able to reach and support indoor-based migrant women working in the sex industry in Hamburg.

- Through TAMPEP's engagement on sex workers' human rights issues, *Amnesty for Women* is a well-known information source for local and national media.

■ **For Hamburg:** TAMPEP's methodology in the work with and for sex workers is fully supported by the Secretary of Health of Hamburg, who co-finances the project activities since 1995.

- TAMPEP is a regular participant of the following forums working on sex work issues: Hamburg Working Group St. Pauli (*AG St. Pauli*), Working Group Prostitution Hamburg (*Ratschlag Prostitution Hamburg*), Hamburg Working Group AIDS (*HAKA*), Hamburg Working Group Health and Migration (*amiges*), Hamburg Working Group Outreach (*AG-Strassensozialarbeit Hamburg*), Round Table Prostitution Hamburg (*Runder Tisch Prostitution*).

■ **For Germany:** TAMPEP is the only project, NGO or institution in Germany to do, since 1999, periodical assessments of the sex industry in the country.

- TAMPEP information materials are used throughout Germany, by several NGOs and public health care services since 1995. The project became a reference point for those seeking non-discriminatory information for sex workers.

- The recognition of TAMPEP's professional work is demonstrated by the return the project gets when doing its regular mapping. In 2008, TAMPEP-Germany had a return of 71% of responses (67 questionnaires responded, out of 94 sent out). The mapping allowed the development of a directory of social and health services for sex workers in the

country. The directory, in form of a flyer, is updated regularly and distributed nationwide.

- [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu) was launched in Germany through a round-mail of more than 150 receivers among NGOs, GOs, policy makers, media and academics.

- TAMPEP-Germany is since 1998 a member of the German Working Group Rights Prostitution (*Bundesweite AG-Recht Prostitution*) and of the National Conference on Prostitution (*Fachtagung Prostitution*).

## GREECE

- **For ACTUP:** TAMPEP gave the organisation the opportunity to work in a more appropriate way with sex workers, to develop peer education strategies and to get involved with anti-trafficking programme.

- The first TAMPEP event organized in Greece (2002) opened the discussion on sex work, migration, trafficking, smuggling and public health.

- Due to the advocacy for adequate anti-trafficking policies, the Ministry of Health created an office for the study and monitoring of trafficking in 2008.

- The TAMPEP material allowed us to work with migrant communities and talk about safer sex, including migrants' rights.

- The peer education method has also been extended to other target groups other than sex workers such as young people and MSM.

- **For Greece:** due to TAMPEP, we have started research on sex work, migration and trafficking in Greece, as separate and different phenomena. We have gained expertise in the field and now impart knowledge and empowerment within the development programme at national level.

## ITALY

- **For the Committee for the Civil Rights of Prostitutes:** TAMPEP is coordinated in Italy by the *Committee*, an association of and for sex workers. The Committee is also a member of the national network of sex workers associations, transgender, LGBT. It has carried out, in collaboration with TAMPEP and other national associations, different national

campaigns for the recognition of sex workers' rights and campaigns against the penalisation of sex work.

- As a representative of TAMPEP, the *Committee* puts pressure on political decision-makers (Ministries or regional authorities) with regard to legislation on prostitution.

- As the TAMPEP representative, it is also member of the National Focal Point AIDS and Mobility, that is coordinated by the *Instituto Superiore della Sanità*, which holds two annual national conferences during which the TAMPEP project and its activities are presented.

- **For Italy:** TAMPEP's innovative methodology has contributed to more effective interventions for sex workers.

- [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu) has rendered more information available and facilitated direct access to information through internet to the target.

- Agreements with GOs and NGOs all over Italy aimed at the realisation of intervention schemes that implement the TAMPEP methodology (health prevention and distribution of multilingual information material).

- The national mapping of prostitution, in collaboration with the national network, gave a comprehensive picture of the phenomenon.

- Training of peer educators that increased sex workers' involvement and self-help initiative.

- Exchange of best practices with private/public services and associations of the European network.

- Collaboration between public and private services in order to guarantee universal access to information and health prevention measures.

- The pilot project which lasted from 1994 to 2000 saw to the creation of TAMPEP Onlus in Turin, a NGO that carries out research, outreach and health prevention activity. It also implements international projects in Nigeria in collaboration with international agencies like UNICRI and IOM. The recently published material of TAMPEP has been presented to the national network.

## LITHUANIA

- **For the Lithuanian AIDS Centre:** It is the only organisation in the country that provides HIV/STI- diagnosis, therapy and psychosocial support for sex workers.

Joining the international network has provided the Centre theoretical and practical background aimed at improving their services and respond adequately to the needs of sex workers.

- Being part of the TAMPEP network has evidenced how important advocacy is and this has strengthened the Centre's motivation to fight for sex workers' rights and against their criminalisation.

- Thanks to the TAMPEP experience peer educators have been introduced in the Centre's activity.

- **For Lithuania:** The distribution of TAMPEP information material to sex workers, which is very much appreciate.

## LUXEMBOURG

- **For Luxembourg:** the Dropin and other social service providers display the TAMPEP materials in their centres. Sex workers have shown interest in the contents of the multilingual information material, which is easy to understand.

The official website of TAMPEP is a regularly used source of information for journalists and politicians of Luxembourg when they refer to the national prostitution scene.

## THE NETHERLANDS

- **For the Netherlands:** TAMPEP is an active member of various forums and gatherings within the European Commission: HIV/AIDS Civil Society Forum, and Group of Experts in Trafficking;

- Diffusion of CD-ROMs and other TAMPEP material.

- Participation in numerous international conferences and presentation of papers and expertise.

- Response to various inquires for information from different agencies and researchers about sex work, trafficking and migration movements in the field of prostitution.

- Providing training to various international bodies on sex work, migration and trafficking in human beings;

- Consultancy for various international agencies, such as UNFPA, UNAIDS, WHO, Open Society Institute.

## NORWAY

- **For Pro-Sentret:** TAMPEP has influenced work at Pro-Sentret both with national and migrant sex workers, as it has applied more emphasis on practical health service and information. Most useful resources have been practical information on issues related to health and violence on CD/DVD TAMPEP.
- TAMPEP methodology on cultural mediation is implemented at Pro-Sentret and well known in other services for sex workers. Peer work is still to be implemented.
- It has also been very important to stay abreast, over the years, of the development of the prostitution scene in Europe. Through this knowledge Pro-Sentret professionals can better understand the development in Norway.

## POLAND

- **For TADA:** contribution to the improvement of the project, its experience and lessons learned.
- Experiences used by the new cross-border project with the Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe and the Ukrainian Salus Foundation.
- Diagnosis of the prostitution scene in Europe, including the situation of Polish sex workers working abroad
- Understanding that the need of legislation for sex work is not the only solution for legal prostitution.
- Challenging the cross border workshops with *Amnesty for Woman* representatives and TADA's outreach workers.
- **For Poland:** the most important contribution that TAMPEP has made in Poland was the exchange of information regarding services dedicated to sex workers, including migrant sex workers across Europe. Significant contribution was also the exchange with other NGO's members bringing a new look on practices, the respect for human rights and social attitudes towards sex workers in different member countries of the TAMPEP network.

## PORTUGAL

- **For Portugal:** it led to a more effective and enlarged contact with other organisations working with sex workers.
- It permitted the use of more information resources and the possibility to divulgate them among sex workers, health professionals and the general population.
- It has created the communication conditions for the creation of a national network.

## ROMANIA

- **For Romania:** TAMPEP has been the only support for ARAS in working with sex workers considering there is no other organization or institution in Romania that offers services for this group.
- ARAS was trained by TAMPEP to work with peer educators in sex work.
- One of the most important contributions of TAMPEP in ARAS' work over the years represented a model in outreach activities for sex workers and a model in advocacy interventions. The Sex Workers European Manifesto was also a model and a technical support for ARAS advocacy work.

## SLOVENIA

- **For Slovenia:** TAMPEP represented the incentive for putting sex workers in the agenda of the national public health programme.
- As a result of regional exchange, a proposal for the development of a common project between Slovenia and Italy was made.
- For the future, CARS plans to collect more epidemiological data and develop systematic interventions, outreach work and evaluation. Sustainable financial resources are essential to realise this project.

## SLOVAKIA

- **For C.A. Odysseus:** TAMPEP VIII provided the possibility to get a deeper insight in areas that are not usually analysed.
- C.A. Odysseus is a typical example of a service provider that mainly focuses on improving services for sex workers and/or drug users. In the framework of TAMPEP 8 we were able to map sex work and the provision of services in the country.

- The collected data gave a clear picture of the gaps in the work with and for sex workers, the need to promote their human rights and health prevention. Thanks to this mapping C.A. Odysseus can recommend ways of better cooperation to the national/local authorities and other NGOs and what steps should be taken.

■ **For Slovakia:** The collection of juridical and policy system data is a great tool to collect information not only about the law regarding sex work but also other important information like access to health care, migration and treatment.

- TAMPEP 8 made it possible, for the first time in Slovakia, that a thorough report on sex work has been realised in Slovakia, which hopefully will be very useful to the stakeholders in the country.

- The *EU Manual on Good Practices in Work with and for Sex Workers* is a very important tool that will be distributed all over the country. As local organisations do not have sufficient experience on sex workers' projects, the publication of a manual by experts represents an opportunity for these organisations to improve their work with sex workers.

- The website [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu) was widely publicised in the country in 2008 in 2009. The website gives useful recommendations to Slovak women working abroad along with guidelines against trafficking to women, men and transgender who decide to work across Europe.

- C.A. Odysseus considers the possibility to compare different legislation in European countries of utmost importance. A lot can be learned from the analyses that were made in TAMPEP 8. Several issues can be used in advocacy work and to give official expertise to official representatives of the state.

## SPAIN

■ **For Hetaira:** Hetaira spread the TAMPEP project knowledge and results through *the National Platform for Sex Work* that collaborated in the reports.

■ **For Spain:** TAMPEP materials for migrant sex workers have been distributed at national level.

- The European results have become a useful tool for advocacy in Spain on sex workers rights.

- TAMPEP gave its support to public debates, seminars and social forum all over Spain.

## SWITZERLAND

■ **For ASPASIE:** TAMPEP brochures and flyers in Latvian and Polish are useful and actually used on a daily basis due to the high influx of sex workers from East European countries. These brochures are complementary to some of Aspasia's prevention material and brilliantly illustrate some of the STI prevention messages.

- The new website [www.services4sexworkers.eu](http://www.services4sexworkers.eu) should be linked with [www.sexworkinfo.net](http://www.sexworkinfo.net), the new Suisse project.

## UNITED KINGDOM

■ **For SCOT-PEP:** Participation in the TAMPEP network enabled SCOT-PEP to learn from others experience and expertise in working with and for migrant sex workers. Through the sharing of TAMPEP knowledge and resources, SCOT-PEP, as the national focal point, was able to raise awareness and capacity to respond to the needs of migrant sex workers among the 80+ sex work projects in the United Kingdom.

■ **For the UK:** TAMPEP's leaflets for sex workers have been invaluable, providing many sex work projects working with migrants with their only multi-lingual educational materials. The European and national reports have provided valuable advocacy tools that have enabled sex worker rights activists to challenge many of the exaggerated claims made about migrants and the conflation of sex work and trafficking.

# Sex work in Europe today

## AUSTRIA

■ **LEFÖ | Information, Education and Support for Migrant Women** is a non-profit feminist migrant women's organisation, founded in 1985 BY migrant women FOR migrant women

### The legal Framework

■ **Sex work** - According to the undisputed 1989 ruling of the Austrian Federal Supreme Court, sex work is still considered 'contra bonos mores' or against good morals. Sex work is neither recognized as a trade or a profession nor as a gainful occupation and there is currently no possibility to legalise employment relationships based on sex work. It is compulsory for sex workers to be registered with the local authorities (municipal office and in some provinces the police department). Sex workers must undergo regular mandatory health checks and are taxed as self-employed workers.

■ **Migration** - The general changes in immigration legislation (Immigration and Citizenship Law) have brought about even more restrictions for migrants in general, e.g. regarding marriage to an Austrian citizen, consolidation of short or long-term residency etc. Migrant sex workers are heavily affected by these restrictive measures. Migrant sex workers face expulsion and deportation and may be barred from receiving a residence permit if charged with an offence regarding prostitution laws or for living and working in Austria without a valid permit.

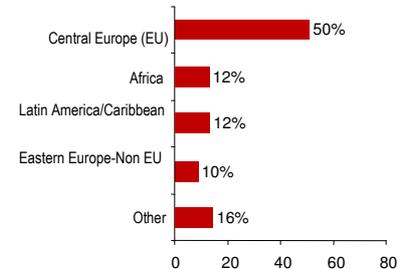
### The Prostitution Scene

LEFÖ estimates that there are approx. 80% migrant sex workers working and living in Austria. Estimated distribution regarding sex work sectors: indoor prostitution 85% (brothels, clubs, bars,

apartments, escort); outdoor prostitution: 15% (city streets, highways, parks). The estimated number of sex workers in Austria: 27.000 - 30.000.

The estimated number of sex workers in Vienna: 5.000 - 7.000.

### Regions of origin of migrant sex workers in Austria



### Vulnerability Factors

#### National sex workers

- Legal exclusion
- Stigma and marginalisation
- Weak social status
- Lack of access to health/social care services
- Criminalisation

#### Migrant sex workers

- Legal, social, health exclusion
- Racism and structural violence
- Weak social status
- Stigma and marginalisation
- Criminalisation

## BELGIUM

■ **Espace P** works in four different towns. It fights for the rights of sex workers, works for sex workers and their relatives, and offers free medical help

### The Legal Framework

■ **Sex Work** - Belgium has an abolitionist attitude concerning prostitution. Prostitution is tolerated but soliciting is forbidden. Pimps are prosecuted. Employing prostitutes is considered as pimping. It is also forbidden to advertise for sex work(ers). Sex workers pay taxes. Their activity is considered as an independent job but they have no specific rights. Each town has the right to manage some aspects of the prostitution in order to minimize public nuisance. There is no federal harmonization on this subject.

■ **Trafficking** - Since 1995 there is a law to protect the victims of human trafficking. This law protects only the victims who

denounce their network; if the inquiry succeeds thanks to the help of the victim, the victim can receive help to stay in our country or to go back to hers. Espace P noticed that the obligation to denounce their networks is a brake for the victims of international sexual exploitation to ask for justice because of reprisals in the country of origin. Another brake for the victim is to ask for justice if they are obliged to quit prostitution to benefit from the protection law.

### The Prostitution Scene

In Belgium sex workers work on the streets, in bars, in the red light district windows, in private clubs and apartments, in Champagne bar clubs, and through the Internet. Espace P estimates that there are 15.000 to 20.000 sex workers in Belgium. Of the total estimate approximately 51% of sex workers in Belgium are migrants. Estimated distribution regarding sex work sectors: indoor prostitution 66% (brothels, clubs, bars, apartments, escort); outdoor prostitution: 34% (city streets, highways, parks).

### Regions of origin of migrant sex workers in Belgium

The great majority of the European migrants come from the new EU countries (Rumania, Russia, Poland and Bulgaria), 15%; and 26% from the Old EU countries in Western and South Europe. From European, non EU countries, the 14% migrant sex workers are from the Balkan region (particularly from Albania) and 5% from the Eastern Europe (Russia, Ukraine, Moldova). Non-Europeans come mainly from Sub-Saharan Africa (26%) and Latin America and Caribbean, 9%, (Ecuador, and Dominican Republic).

### Vulnerability Factors

#### **National sex workers**

- Economic Situation
- Social isolation and family isolation and exclusion
- Violence from organisers and exploitation of sex industry, client and other people
- Low self esteem
- Lack of recognition of labour rights of sex workers

#### **Migrant sex workers**

- Legal, social, health exclusion
- Economic situation
- Social isolation and exclusion
- Alcohol and drug dependency
- Violence from organisers of sex industry

## **BULGARIA**

■ **HESED | Health and Social Development Foundation** carries out health promotion activities and stimulates social development of underprivileged groups, including sex workers

### The Legal Framework

■ **Sex Work** - Individual prostitution is neither criminalised, nor legalised. The legal framework does not directly address sex work but companion activities are criminalised. Organising and offering venues for prostitution, minor and forced prostitution is punishable. Street sex workers are often fined or punished for not engaging in a 'socially beneficial' form of labour, also charged for violating public order, for not carrying or not holding ID cards and other similar offences. Because sex work is not clearly regulated, sex workers experience a great amount of arbitrary treatment from the police and the authorities.

Massage and escort services (practicing indoors) are legal and liable to annual taxation (since 1st of January 2008 by the municipalities) but currently nobody is paying the tax.

There is in Bulgaria no explicit regulation for sex workers and migrants are considered as foreigners in Bulgaria but not as sex workers. Sex work is not included in the formal list of professions in Bulgaria, so neither nationals nor migrants can practice it legally.

■ **Trafficking** - The 9th section of the Penal Code of the Republic of Bulgaria concerns "*Trafficking in Human Beings*", punishable by up to ten years imprisonment and a fine of 15,000 BG Leva (about € 7.700).

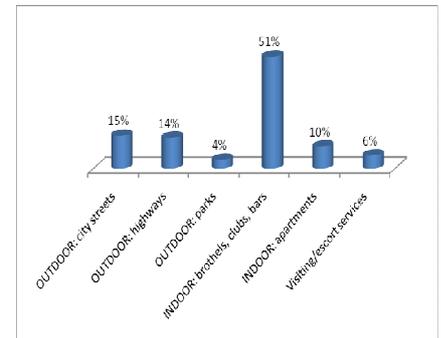
### The Prostitution Scene

Sex work in Bulgaria is still controlled by criminal organisations. Whether a sex worker has a pimp or not, she must pay the "owner" of the place in order to work there.

There are 4 main types of prostitution:

- Street/motel
- Hotel
- Clubs/apartments
- Escort services

Street based sex workers are the ones who have most limited access to health and social services and recently could be noticed a tendency to hide the outdoor sex workers, caused by very active work of the Ministry of Interior. Sex workers who use drugs are less accessible due to the criminalization of drug users.



■ **Violence**: still a common feature in the sex business. Sex workers face very heavy stigmatization. A very negative public image that is strongly affected by traditional moral norms means that sex workers face rejection, social exclusion and neglect. Their marginalized status and the problems they face as a result are very rarely put under serious and thorough discussion.

■ **Numbers**: about 4000 sex workers are reached by the network of outreach organisations in Bulgaria for the beginning of 2009. Approximately 8 000 to 10 000 people are involved in prostitution on the territory of Bulgaria. The data is based on expert estimation of outreach teams but still there is no official information about the number of sex workers in Bulgaria.

■ **Nationalities**: the majority of sex workers are nationals with the numbers of migrant sex workers decreasing to less than 2%. The overall presence of migrant sex workers has decreased after Bulgaria became a member of the EU. For many of the migrants who were coming to Bulgaria prior to 2007 entry visas are now required and the country is losing its appeal as a transit destination. Now migrants are travelling directly to West Europe countries instead. Approximately 74% of migrant sex workers are from former Soviet Union countries. The other

migrants come from Turkey, Romania, Poland, Macedonia and even China.

■ **Situation:** the majority of sex workers in Bulgaria are younger women often with little life or social experience, a low level education and limited possibilities for social realization. Approximately one third of sex workers are coming from the Roma community and as a result they face intersecting forms of discrimination and stigmatization. The percentage of female sex workers of Roma ethnicity is decreasing in comparison with the data from 2006 when almost 50% of all female sex workers were Roma, working both indoors and outdoors. Now 36% of all sex workers are Roma and they are involved mainly in street-based prostitution.

Over the last 2 years indoor sex work has increased. The majority of indoor sex workers are Bulgarians. 10 % of all sex workers are from the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. Working and living conditions of sex workers vary, depending on their ethnic background, social situation, rural/urban living area and sector of the sex industry.

## CZECH REPUBLIC

■ **BLISS WITHOUT RISK** aim is to decrease public and health risks of women working in prostitution regardless of their nationality, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, religion or social background.

### The Legal Framework

The sex industry in the Czech Republic is currently not regulated. Most of the debate on prostitution reflects abolitionist positions designed to control and/or eliminate prostitution and the focus of policy and policing tends to be on street-based sex workers. In 2007 a municipal regulation came into force permitting towns to independently decide whether to prohibit street prostitution or to designate areas of tolerance. This general ordinance on the protection of public order has been valid since March 1, 2007, prohibiting the advertising (offering) of sex services and providing sex services in public spaces. Ordinance 20/2007, § 2 extends this prohibition to all public

spaces within the city borders. As a result many towns have been banning street prostitution altogether and police actions have forced street-based sex workers outside of city limits and into greater danger and vulnerability.

The situation in Teplice is one example of how policy and enforcement act to change the prostitution scene. Since beginning of 2009 sex workers are moving back to street-based sex work as police actions close many of the nightclubs where they had worked. A new way of working has developed there with sex workers working both outdoors; running into the street as potential clients drive by, and indoors; working officially behind the window where they bring clients back to.

■ The Czech Republic has been in a process of preparing a law on prostitution since 1994. The main elements of the proposed law refer to the tax obligation of sex workers, monthly compulsory health examinations and a system of mandatory registration of sex workers. As yet this has not been finalised and implemented. The Czech Republic has signed the 1949 UN-convention and this is interpreted by some as an obstacle to legalizing sex work.

■ The City of Prague has recently passed a local draft law on the regulation of prostitution. Sex worker advocates (R-R) were able to get an agreement that sex workers would not be required to register their business at their place of residence and that there would be a longer time span between mandatory HIV tests. Advocates continue to intervene in the political process on behalf of sex workers and are currently submitting comments on labour relations within the sex industry and labour rights for sex workers. In fall 2008 this law was presented to the Parliament.

■ Since 2006, as per the European Council Directive 2004/81/EC of 29 April 2004, residence permits are offered to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or who have been the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration. Those who cooperate with the relevant authorities have two months to decide whether they want to continue to cooperate in a criminal case against their traffickers/ exploiters. Victims have the option to obtain a long term residence permit for protection or they may decide to leave to their home country.

■ The internationalisation of sex work in the Czech Republic is significant: 20 nationalities from different continents are currently active in the Czech sex industry. The estimated population of sex workers are almost equally divided between nationals and migrants in the Czech Republic. New to the Czech Republic is the increasing number of sex workers from countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, and Brazil. Still, the majority of sex workers are European migrant (86%), from Central Europe (50%) and Eastern Europe (33%). The sex industry is expanding, particularly because the capital has become an international tourist destination. As mentioned above we are seeing more sex workers from, for example, Brazil and Nigeria, as the adult entertainment industry responds to a growing demand from Czech clients for variety and as a result of increases in sex tourism.

### The Prostitution Scene

■ In 2006 indoor sex work represented 70% of the industry in the Czech Republic, now 81%. The shift is mainly attributed to the increase in policing of outdoor settings and changes to policies at the municipal level.

■ The number of sex clubs is decreasing and the number of sex workers in indoor premises is growing, as well as the creation of big brothels with up to 150 women.

■ Approximately 50% of street based sex workers are Roma. There has been an overall decrease observed in the numbers of sex workers working in outdoor settings. In Prague, for example, most are working in the vicinity of the main railway station.

■ The estimated number of sex workers in the Czech Republic is between 10 and 13.000.

### Vulnerability Factors

Violence is the number one vulnerability factor faced by national sex workers. Both national and migrant sex workers are reporting more incidents of client violence and have been asking outreach workers more frequently about safety products such as security cameras and alarms.

### National sex workers

For many national sex workers financial difficulties and a lack of financial support are reasons why sex work is seen as a viable option. Many sex workers do not

have the skills or qualifications or, as in the case of Roma women, may meet with racial prejudice when looking for better paid work. Sex work can pay well and in some cases offers single mothers' greater scheduling flexibility allowing them to structure work around family obligations.

### Migrant sex workers

Migrant sex workers are most vulnerable to exploitation from pimps, traffickers, clients and other third parties. A weak or illegal status and a poor or non-existent network of support from family or others means they are very isolated and more easily targeted. Migrant sex workers face language barriers and are often poorly informed about their rights or where to access services that could help them. Much of this could be improved through awareness raising campaigns. One organisation, Risk without Bliss (R-R) distributes information flyers and other promotional materials including emergency contact information during outreach work.

## DENMARK

■ **The Danish Prostitution Centre** does social outreach work in massage parlours all over Denmark. It supports men and women working in prostitution by build bridge between the different social health and care agents in Denmark.

### The Legal Framework

■ **Danish Penal Code:** Prostitution is not illegal; neither is selling or buying sexual services, except from persons under the age of 18. Pimping and running a brothel is prohibited in Denmark. The punishment for these acts is up to 4 years of imprisonment. The Danish Parliament took the necessary step on 31 May 2002, of adopting new legislation on human trafficking into the Danish Penal Code. This new provision is based on the UN additional protocol on human trafficking and on the EU framework decision on trafficking.

■ **Alien Act:** In 2007, new provisions were adopted into the Alien Act/Immigration Law, specifically addressing the residence status of

victims of trafficking. According to the new act, presumed trafficked persons are permitted to stay in Denmark for up to 100 days. Previously, trafficked persons who had been convicted were considered criminals sentenced to deportation under the law.

■ **Law on public order:** Street prostitution is regulated under this. It states that the police may prohibit anyone to stop on a certain spot or walk up and down shorter distances if any of these activities results in inconvenience for the persons living around or people passing by.

■ **Criminalization of Clients:** concerning criminalisation of clients the politicians are split in two: The *liberals* having the point of view, neither to prohibit prostitution nor criminalise the clients and the *democratic/socialist* considering that it is unacceptable in a modern society that someone has the right to buy an "access" to another person's body. They emphasize that it is not a moral view. Criminalization of the clients might be a reality in case of change of government.

■ **SIO, a sex workers' organisation:** in March 2008 Danish sex workers established an organization called SIO (the interest organization for sex workers). SIO demand that sex workers should be treated with respect and dignity regardless of nationality and gender. Migrant sex workers deserve the same rights to work and live in Denmark as national sex workers. Sex workers are experts in their own lives and have to be involved in all kinds of initiatives concerning sex workers. The Danish Prostitution Centre exchanged point of views with SIO.

### The Prostitution Scene

In Denmark the numbers of prostitutes are calculated on observations on the amount of advertisements in papers and on the internet. It means that only the visible prostitution is calculated. Therefore the number must be considered as a minimum number. There is no sense in calculating percentages because some forms of prostitution are more visible than others. The sex working setting forms are:

- 59% in massage parlours
- 25% in street-prostitution
- 8% in escort
- 3% in bar-prostitution
- 2% in their homes

- 2% in combined form massage parlours and escort
- 1% in combined form in their homes and escort

The visible prostitution amounts to 5.567 persons.

■ **Migrant women** - From that, about 65% are estimated to be migrant women in prostitution, although the information is unsubstantiated. The picture tends to be the same as the last years.

Approximately 45% of the foreign women in prostitution in Denmark come from East- and Central Europe (Romania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic and Lithuania in particular), 45% are from Asia, mainly Thailand, 10% from West Africa Nigeria in particular) and South America.

This pattern is, however, distributed differently in other regions of the country. Migrant sex workers tend to work on the streets, in massage parlours and in escorting. 144 migrant women were met in outdoor settings in Copenhagen in 2008, (54% from Central and East Europe, 40% from Africa- the majority from Nigeria. The rest of the street workers come mainly from Latin America).

### Vulnerability Factors

#### National sex workers

- Alcohol and drug dependency
- Poverty & financially problems and lack of education
- Physical and psychological violence
- Psychological problems
- Risk of STI

#### Migrant sex workers

- Poverty and necessity of earning money
- Violence, victims of coercion, exploitation and trafficking (controlled by pimps)
- Lack of legal status – no alternatives to working in prostitution
- Lack of knowledge about rights and opportunities, need more information, lack of alternatives
- Risk of STI

## ESTONIA

■ **AIDS-I Tugikeskus** offers HIV and STI testing and treatment, thematic counselling, and distributes safe sex means and information materials for the general public and especially for sex workers and youth.

### The Legal Framework

In Estonia sex work is not criminalized but there is no recognition that it is a form of work and the sex industry is not regulated in any way. Laws exist criminalizing the involvement of third parties in prostitution such as pimping legislation and brothel keeping and to combat cases of trafficking or minors in prostitution. Currently there is less debate in the public media by politicians and feminist organisations about changing legislation to criminalize the purchase of sex services and it appears that the Ministry of Internal Affairs has no intention of implementing legal reform such as that of Finland. As such there have been no changes in legislation or policy in the recent years; however, there has been significant change in the prostitution scene nonetheless.

### The Prostitution Scene

Although it is difficult to determine the exact number of brothels and sex businesses or the number of sex workers there have been a significant number of closures since 2006. In Tallinn there are only two larger brothels operating with approximately 50-70 workers in each setting in sharp contrast to 2006 when there were approximately 50 to 70 smaller and larger brothels in Tallinn and a few operating in the other major cities such as Narva, the summer resort Pärnu, and Tartu. Most of these clubs, saunas, and brothels were closed through police actions. According to different sources the estimated total number sex workers has decreased from 1500-2000 in 2006 to 1000-1200 in 2008.

Other changes since 2006 show improvements in the ability of sex workers to work more autonomously and under better working conditions; working conditions have improved, there is less evidence of violence and "closed" systems of working, sex workers appear to have a more flexible

work schedule and better access to safe sex supplies.

■ The number of sex workers who are trying to work independently or with minimal interference by third parties has increased and more sex workers are using the Internet and print advertising to attract clients and working out of apartments rather than in closed 'managed' brothels or clubs. There is also very limited street-based sex work in Tallinn or other major cities in Estonia. Only 2% of all sex work in the country takes place in outdoor settings and of the small but slightly increasing number of migrant sex workers none seem to be working outdoors.

■ National sex workers are also becoming increasingly mobile within the EU region a change from 2006. More sex workers are travelling abroad for short-term work to Germany, Denmark, Spain, and Greece and more recently Riga, Latvia whereas in the past they would have travelled to Scandinavian countries. In some cases they work abroad but travel to and from Estonia because of dependants. A lot of them visit the Medical Centre "TE" for free medical check-ups when they return to Estonia.

Finally there seem to be fewer sex workers observed coming from Latvia to work in Tallinn than observed in 2006. Mainly are returning to Latvia as with national sex workers from Estonia as there appears to be higher income opportunities, a better economic situation, and less repressive implementation of policy by officials and police.

### Vulnerability Factors

#### National sex workers

- Lack of access to health & social care services
- Criminalisation of sex industry
- Police violence & harassment
- Social isolation and exclusion
- Stigma

#### Migrant sex workers

- Legal status in the country
- Mobility
- Police violence & harassment
- Social isolation and exclusion
- Violence from organisers of sex industry

## FINLAND

■ **Pro-tukipiste** is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation which supports and promotes the civil and human rights of individuals involved in sex work and provides professional low threshold social and health care services for sex workers.

### The Legal Framework

■ **Penal code:** 1) Pandering (pimping) and aggravated pandering, 2) Trafficking and aggravated trafficking, 3) Marketing of sexual services, 4) Buying sexual services from someone under age of 18, 5) 2006: Buying sexual services from the victim of trafficking/aggravated pandering.

■ **Law about public order (2003):** Selling and buying sexual services in public places.

■ **Alien law:** 1) 1999: Earning money by selling sexual services is ground for deportation (non-EU citizens). 2) 2006: The victim of trafficking can get a permit to stay for a reflection period (from 1 month to 6 months) or a temporal residence permit if (s)he is ready to cooperate with the law enforcement authority.

■ **Integration Act 2007:** Victims of trafficking are entitled to get protection and support from the state.

The Legal reform in 2006 resulted in a new offence coming into effect early 2007 criminalizing buying sexual services from the targets of procuring (pimping) and victims of trafficking (also known as the Finnish Model). Leading up to and as a result of this change trafficking has been the central issue dominating discussions around prostitution in Finland and the media has been active in this debate often conflating sex work and trafficking when it comes to migrants in the sex industry. Since this law was enacted and police controls of sex work settings have increased and the prostitution scene has been reorganising itself. National and migrant sex workers who previously worked in street-based settings or in bars have shifted to advertising on the internet and they are being forced to change their work locations more often.

### The Prostitution Scene

Mobility has increased internally and in European level. The biggest migrant groups are still from Russian, Estonian and Thailand, with new nationalities coming from Nigeria, Venezuela, Brazil, Poland and Slovenia. Police surveillance

has increased significantly both in outdoor and indoor scenes.

Estimation is that there are approximately 5000 to 6000 sex workers in Finland and that approximately 70% are migrant sex workers (based mainly on figures from Helsinki, Tampere and Turku). A rough estimation suggests that there are about 1000-2500 sex workers working outside of the capital area in other cities and resorts areas in Finland. Almost all of sex work is provided in indoor settings. Outdoor sex work only takes place in Helsinki. The vast majority of national sex workers are working in apartments.

### **Vulnerability Factors**

#### **National sex workers**

- stigma and discrimination
- alcohol and drug dependency
- social isolation and exclusion
- the legislative situation
- lack of access to health & social care services.

#### **Migrant sex workers**

- Legal status in the country
- Mobility
- Police violence & harassment
- Social isolation and exclusion
- Violence from organisers of sex industry

## **FRANCE**

■ **Autres Regards**, a community based organisation for sex workers, prevention, access to rights, and access to health care.

■ **PASTT**, a NGO for transgender sex workers that does HIV/STI prevention, outreach work, offers access to rights, and to health care.

### **The Legal Framework**

■ **Sex work** - In France, sex work is neither prohibited nor explicitly regulated. There is no legislation targeting clearly "sex work" in these terms. The regulations on health care, migration or employment target mostly migrants, and sometimes only French nationals but not especially sex workers.

■ **Procuring is forbidden**. This refers to helping, assisting or protecting prostitution, sharing or receiving

income from prostitution, acting as an intermediary or living with a sex worker without having any resources of income of one's own. It is a wide definition.

■ **Active and passive solicitation is prohibited** since the Law for Inner security or Law Sarkozy II adopted in March 2003. Passive solicitation concerns any person who "has the intention to propose a remunerated sexual service". This is forbidden in any public place such as streets, bars, public gardens, roads, park places, woods, etc. This passive solicitation can be punished by a penalty of 2 months prison and a 3750 € fine.

■ **Changes occurred mainly on the local level**, where the application of the law is often different. The situation for sex workers is getting difficult: several decrees have been taken against sex workers to forbid them to work on their habitual place of work (in Lyon, Bordeaux) and police controls have strengthened (Toulouse, Paris, Nantes and Marseille).

The situation has become alarming for both national and migrant sex workers in France. As a result of the more frequent and stricter application of the Law for Inner Security, they encounter more violence (moral and physical), more police controls, and more stigmatisation.

■ **Clients**: although a client was arrested in 2007 and accused of passive solicitation, the Finnish and Swedish models are not in discussion anymore. Is it a result of advocacy campaigns or is it a way to postpone the inevitable?

■ **Sex workers' Trade Union**: sex workers have now their trade union in France: the STRASS (*Syndicat du travail sexuel*). The creation of the STRASS was announced the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2009 during the European Conference on Prostitution. They fight for the decriminalization of sex work, for self-organisation of sex work and for equal social rights to all sex workers / prostitutes, escorts, porn / actors-tress, strip-teasers...

The STRASS is against the Law for Inner security, against any form of exploitation of all forms of sex work, and for a real status of sex workers.

The STRASS counts already more than 200 members, and is the biggest sex workers trade union in Europe.

### **Immigration**

■ **Non EU-Citizens** still need to fulfil basic conditions to enter in France (a visa, a valid passport, proof of a place to stay, insurance and financial resources). With the Hortefeux Law of 20 November 2007, stricter conditions for the entry and residence of foreigners have been implemented: compilation of statistics based on ethnicity, contract of acceptance and integration about the Republic's laws and values and the comprehension of the French language.

Non-EU citizens may be granted a residence permit of one year under very strict conditions mainly for the following motives: if they are students, interns, scientists, or workers; if they have family members who reside in France; if they live in France in irregularity for a long time (under strict conditions). All the resident permits mentioned above grant the right to work, with the exception of students and interns.

A person may seek political asylum; however, this procedure involves a lot of time (2-3 years). The conditions for granting refugee status are becoming stricter as well. These persons may obtain temporary residency permits during the approval procedure, but without the authorisation to work.

A HIV-positive person may be granted a residence permit of one year, which may be renewable, dependent on the person's country of origin. This permit also grants the right to work.

■ **EU-Citizens**: EU citizens enjoy the right to enter and to stay in France with the possession of a valid passport or a valid identify card (ID); however, the nationals of Bulgaria and Romania need a residence permit in order to work in France or to sojourn or stay for a period that exceeds three months.

No major changes occur during the 2 last years. Controls have become more frequent and are conducted more thoroughly.

■ **Migrants**: the aim of the immigration legislation since 2007 is to create new irregular migrants and to reduce the possibility to regularize migrants.

Migrant sex workers, regarding to their status and their work, have to stand more police controls and a greater repression on them.

As there is no possibility of obtaining a stay/work permit in France on the basis of

working in sex work, migrant sex workers are living in hiding, without physical and psychological security. Migrant sex workers are becoming increasingly difficult to reach by outreach services providing health and social support to marginalised communities. They are at an increased risk of violence, find it more difficult to resist client demand for unsafe sex services and are more socially isolated and vulnerable to exploitation than ever.

### The Prostitution Scene

Estimated number of sex workers in France: 30 000

Sex workers who had contact with the 12 organisations answering the survey: 6477

In France, the overall prostitution scenario is structured, as follows: 71% of the sex workers are women, 10% are men, and 19% are transgender. Sex workers are mostly migrants (about 60%, even though this percentage is deemed to be underestimated because more and more migrants are working in hidden places that associations are finding much harder to reach) who come from Eastern Europe, Africa, and Latin America.

Furthermore, according to our knowledge, 39% of the persons work indoors (mostly in apartments). This estimate is based on actual knowledge of the indoor phenomenon in France. We assume that even this percentage is greatly under-represented.

■ **INDOOR sex work:** There has been a shift from outdoor to indoor settings as (migrant) sex workers and organisers of sex workers attempt to avoid police repression. 10% of indoor sex work is in brothels, clubs or bars, while 2/3 of indoor sex work remains in apartments. Other forms of sex work such as internet based services and phone sex is also on the increase. And finally as the economic situation continues to place stress on individuals, particularly those with no or low income, we are seeing an increase in the number of people engaging in occasional prostitution.

■ **OUTDOOR sex work:** In France the majority of sex work still takes place in outdoor settings, and especially in the city streets (72%) but

this is changing. As a result of the heavy policing of the sex industry sex workers are shifting from street-based sex work to work in riskier outdoor locations such as outside of city limits or in parks (28%).

### Vulnerability Factors

#### **National sex workers**

The situation for national sex workers in France is deteriorating with increasing vulnerability resulting directly from the Law on Inner Security.

The wide interpretation and impact of this law has been to increase the precariousness of national sex workers and to undermine their ability to have control over working conditions. Further, the promotion and implementation of this law has led to greater stigmatization of sex workers as victims and it has made national sex workers far more vulnerable to social isolation and exclusion, drug or alcohol dependency, increased client violence and to biased or sub-standard treatment by health and social service institutions. More national sex workers, and in particular transgender sex workers, despite good access to quality healthcare, are being refused health services, having services postponed or falling victim to inappropriate coordination between the health institutions around their care.

With the implementation of the Law Sarkozy police intensified the repression of sex work through harassment, raids, fines, and arrests of sex workers, particularly in outdoor settings.

#### **Migrant sex workers**

Many of the vulnerabilities affecting national sex workers are also impacting on migrant sex workers; however, their situation is even more precarious as a result of new legislation and heavy enforcement of immigration laws. For migrant sex workers a lack of, or unstable legal status is the main vulnerability and this is directly linked to general vulnerabilities of migration and specific vulnerabilities within sex work (work clandestinely to avoid detection...).

Without access to support migrant sex workers are extremely vulnerable to targeted exploitation by third parties, discrimination and social isolation and exclusion. There is little physical or psychological security for migrant sex workers without valid papers and as a result they must often make high risk

decisions around their health and safety in sex work.

Migrant sex workers face as well the increase of racism towards migrant women sex workers and especially migrant transgender and travesties.

Migrant sex workers from the new EU countries also encounter difficulties; they have a better legal standing under EU labour and residency law but they are often unable to exercise their rights because of their migrant status and weaker social position.

## **GERMANY**

■ **Amnesty for Women** is a human rights agency. It is a social and legal counselling centre, and a meeting point for migrant women in Hamburg.

### The Legal Framework

The Prostitution Law (ProstL) of 2002 aimed the legal and social improvement for sex workers:

- it abolished the "immorality" quality of sex work, by permitting self-employment as well as employment contracts in prostitution, giving sex workers access to the social security
- it declared that sexual activities in exchange for payment are grounds for legally valid claims and
- it decriminalised the promotion of prostitution, meaning that the provision of good working conditions is expressly no longer punishable.
- it considers it within the civil law, from a human rights' perspective.

### **SEX WORK**

#### Positive

- In Berlin, Dortmund, Hamburg, Hannover and Munich there have been regular round-table discussions between NGOs, GOs, sex workers and brothel managers aiming the improvement of sex workers' situation.
- In July 2009, a group of NGOs dealing with sex workers in Germany founded BUFAS (*German Association of Organisations for Sex Workers*) in order to give an official status to advocacy work done on national level. The Association has an advisory board of former and active sex workers.

## Negative

■ The legislation on pimping, taxes, trade, building, and migration, all directly related to the Prostitution Act of 2002, which recognised sex work as an activity, has not been changed accordingly. There are no uniform guidelines on national level on how the Prostitution Act is to be implemented. The result is arbitrariness, insecurity and confusion among sex workers and others within the sex industry.

■ The Prostitution Act considers only documented migrant sex workers. It is not possible to obtain an entry visa for the purpose of sex work.

## MIGRATION

There were no relevant changes in the prostitution scene in the last two years, with the exception of an increase among female and male sex workers coming from newly associated EU countries, in particular, from Bulgaria and Romania.

Citizens from the old EU states as well as Malta and Cyprus may in principle pursue any kind of gainful occupation in Germany. Citizens from the new EU countries may work only as self-employed sex workers. To carry on dependent gainful occupation, new EU citizens require a work permit. Currently, it is however not possible to obtain a permit for sex work.

## The Prostitution Scene

### Migrant FEMALE sex workers

1999 -> 52%  
2001 -> 55%  
2003 -> 57%  
2005 -> 60%  
2008 -> 63%

### Migrant MALE sex workers

2005 -> 70%  
2008 -> 80%

### Migrant TRANSGENDER sex workers

2005 -> 85%  
2008 -> 85%

### Sectors 2008

Indoor -> 90%  
Outdoor -> 10%

### Settings 2008

Brothels, clubs, bars, massage parlours -> 45%  
Apartments -> 40%  
Escort -> 5%  
Street -> 10%

## Top 10 nationalities 2008

Thailand, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Russia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Latvia, Hungary.

## The impact of the EU enlargement

	2003	2005	2008
Central and Eastern Europe	50%	55%	70%
Asia	20%	20%	15%
Latin America	20%	15%	10%
Africa	10%	10%	5%

## Vulnerability Factors

### National sex workers

- Financial problems (pressure, debts, poverty, unemployment, homelessness).
- Violence and abuse
- No professional identity, no professionalism, lack of self-confidence
- Stigma and discrimination
- Exploitative personal dependencies, psychological pressures, instability

### Migrant sex workers

- Legal status in the country, repressive migration policies
- Financial problems and pressure, debts, in origin and in staying country, poverty
- Little knowledge of the German language
- Violence and abuse (from clients, police, organizers) in general, previous and actual experiences
- Social isolation and exclusion

## GREECE

■ **ACT UP** works on the field of HIV/AIDS and STDs prevention especially with difficult to reach populations (migrants, sex workers, trafficking victims) and populations with high risk behaviour (IDUs and homosexuals).

## The Legal Framework

■ **Prostitution Law** - Sex work in Greece is not illegal, but not recognized as a profession either. Therefore, sex workers do not enjoy the protection of labour laws and are not considered to be employees.

The "Permit of Residence in Specified Quarters in order to Exercise Prostitution" and the "Certificate of profession" are the general foundations which enable a person to work legally as a sex worker.

The professional license is valid for three years and only within the borders of the prefecture that issued it. For foreigners whose residence permit is valid for less than three years, the license is valid for the same period as the residence permit.

Self-employed sex workers have to pay taxes as self-employed persons.

Another fact which is worth it to mention is the fact that male sex workers selling sex to homosexual clients (Article 347 PC on "indecentry against nature") are punished while male sex work with consenting female clients is implied to be legal, since there is no punishment for it.

## What is prohibited?

Article 5 defines the criminal penalties for those who violate the laws.

Prosecuted is any person working as a sex worker without a professional certificate, without a health examination, in an unlicensed brothel, in a licensed brothel without a license to work in that establishment, allowing someone to work in a brothel without a license to work in that establishment, hiring to work or working as service personnel in a brothel without the proper license, refusing to undergo or interrupting the necessary treatment recommended by the health examination, renting or making available a lodging for a brothel to a person without a professional license, or a lodging that cannot be operating as a brothel because of its local position.

Article 350 PC punishes pimping.

According to the Greek Law it is a criminal offence to facilitate or to promote sex work.

## What are the consequences?

Persons violating article 5, have to face a sentence of up to two years in prison and a fine. The penalty for pimping is a sentence of six months to three years in prison. The protection of sex workers in any form will be punished with a maximum of two years imprisonment and a fine.

## What is legal?

■ **Article 1** provides for the already mentioned professional license to persons. The qualifications to get the certificate fulfils everybody, who is above 18 years of age, is not married, if

foreigner is legally residing in Greece does not suffer from sexually transmitted or other infectious diseases, from a list provided by the Ministry of Health and welfare does not suffer from any mental illness or drug addictions and has not been irrevocably convicted for homicide, seduction of minors, pimping, pandering, child pornography, trafficking in human beings, child prostitution, robbery, blackmail, or for the violation of the laws on weapons and drugs.

■ **Article 2** provides for the health checks. There is a mandatory fortnightly examination of licensed sex workers' health, carried out by state hospitals, with the results reported on the sex workers health booklet. Should a sex worker be diagnosed with a sexually transmitted or other infectious disease, s/he will receive free treatment, during which s/he should abstain from work.

■ **Article 3** provides for the operating license of brothels. Anyone who holds a professional license and has the written authorization of the owner/s of the lodging can get the operating license. The lodging cannot be used also as a home. The operating license is valid for two years and is renewable for two years as long as the requirements are fulfilled.

### Political framework

The Law for sex work has been voted by the Greek Parliament in 1999, but hasn't been implemented yet. The main reasons are the strong reactions of sex workers such as demonstrate against the Ministry of public order or demonstrate and massive gatherings during the electoral period (2000). As a result the Minister of public order tied up to the revision of the law.

### Migration Law

Changes concerning the legal framework are the new articles (§ 28, law 3536/2007 and § 28, law 3613/2007) complementary to the migration law (3386/2005). Modifications concern legally documented migrants, while the situation remains the same for undocumented migrants (Civil servants are not allowed to communicate with undocumented migrants. Health authorities are included, with the exception of

treatment for minors and emergencies).

Within the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (HCDCP), a new office has been created to research the situation of trafficking in Greece and to better combat traffickers. Currently they are trying to organize networks among GOs and NGOs that are working in the fields of prostitution and trafficking.

### The Prostitution Scene

Prostitution is allowed only in licensed brothels but it also takes place in bars, in the streets, in the hotels or through advertisement in the newspapers and mobile phones. 60% of the sex work takes place outdoor and 40% in indoor settings.

The number of legal sex workers does not exceed 700 but the number of illegal ones is estimated around 10.000. There is a remarkable increase in migration flows into Greece approximately 73% of sex workers are migrants. With increased migration flows into Greece we are seeing greater numbers of individuals working in street sex work settings and in particular in port cities such as Patras, known to be a transit city for those looking to move on to other EU countries.

The nationalities of the newcomers who intend to work in the sex industry has changed lately, with an increasing number of women coming from Eastern Europe, especially from Russia and Ukraine and from Central Europe, especially from Bulgaria and Romania.

### Sex workers situation

Sex work is stigmatized work in Greece. Sex workers are isolated and face a high level of discrimination and social condemnation. National sex workers do not have a strong voice in society and resisting discrimination is difficult. Those working in the illegal sectors are at a higher risk of involvement with drug use. The focus of the state is on sex workers as a threat to public health and public order. In relation to this health and social welfare services to national sex workers are few. There is a special department within the police responsible for controlling the sex industry and policing sex workers and national sex workers are required to go to special medical offices for STI testing, drug dependency support or mental health services. The vulnerability of national sex workers would be reduced by recognizing their labour rights and organizing public health

and social services that are appropriate to the needs of sex workers.

■ **Migrants:** the majority of migrant sex workers work illegally and usually have entered the country illegally. This puts them in a difficult situation. Under the current immigration laws Migrant sex workers have no access to social or health services. In reaction to a growing discontent over migrants the state and the police are reacting with increased repression and violence towards migrant sex workers, and in particular towards migrant sex workers working in street-based settings. In addition, migrant sex workers are more vulnerable to exploitation from pimps, traffickers, smugglers and drug dealers. For migrant sex workers the inability to communicate in the Greek language represents an important obstacle to access of services and/or support. Finding out about the support that is available is highly dependent on whether or not they are coming into contact with NGOs working in the field. The ability for all sex workers to access health and social services is a major public health concern.

Finally, the discussion about sex work and sex workers in the media continues to reinforce stereotypical and discriminatory ideas. Conflating trafficking with prostitution is common as is linking sex work to infections such as HIV, without clear and well-founded data. Education of the media to sensitise them around these issues would help to combat the discrimination of sex worker.

## HUNGARY

■ **Sex Education Foundation,** coordinates NGOs dealing with social work, carries out educational and health promotion programs for vulnerable groups (male and female sex workers, trafficked women, Roma groups, youth)

### The Legal Framework

■ **Hungarian sex workers** - The Main Hungarian Statistical Office-Service gave a code for those performing sex work as an economic activity, as work or service: it is a *non classifiable service done by an own contractor, who has to pay tax.*

■ **Migrant sex workers** - Hungary became an EU-border country and experienced an increasing migration from the East European countries. Most non-

EU citizens enter Hungary with a tourist visa for 3 months, which forbids them to work in Hungary. The tourist becomes illegal after starting work and risks deportation. Usually migrants work in their own flats or hidden brothels. The working conditions are quite bad. Like the Hungarian sex workers, they have problems of human rights abuse, language, violence, and have no access to any social and health contact and aid.

Although the legislation on prostitution may have become less rigid there are far more obstacles in place now which impede the provision of services to sex workers in Hungary. Sexual health screenings (medical checks) are mandatory but they are not free to those without insurance and only available in a few NGO-run centres. Further only a few sex workers have the required medical certificate. The legal status of sex workers, including migrant sex workers is more uncertain now than it may have been in the past. Police enforcement is impacting on the sex industry and it has become more hidden. Planning harm reduction and other health promotion projects in such an environment is very difficult especially with difficulties in doing outreach work

Finally, the economic crisis is being felt in Hungary and the government has cut back on money for social services and there has been a significant decrease in the number of services available to sex workers

### **The Prostitution Scene**

The estimated number is 15 to 20.000 sex workers. Migrants represent about 20 to 25% of the total.

As with many other countries in the Central East Europe region, the majority of sex workers work in indoor settings (60%), mostly in apartments, brothels and clubs. In Hungary the majority of sex workers are working in Budapest. The number of sex workers working outdoors (40%) has decreased significantly and the majority of both national sex workers are working in apartments while most migrant sex workers are working in brothels, bars and clubs. This may also be the result of a strong police control over street-based sex work impacting on independent national and migrant sex workers.

- Where sex workers may work legally and under what conditions is tightly controlled and very restrictive. National policy on prostitution allows local governments to establish protected zones where prostitution is not permitted and zones where prostitution may be practiced but most local authorities deny the existence of such need, and they often refuse to designate such zones. In reality the 'tolerance zones' are almost non-existent due to the various restrictions possible and many sex workers are forced to work illegally outside of this system.

- More than 85% sex workers are Roma women who work on the street, at truck parking places and on the highway going to Austria, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, and Holland. Hungary is seeing significantly higher numbers of migrants coming from Balkan countries and most migrants are arriving in Hungary from Romania, Ukraine, Moldova and Serbia.

## **ITALY**

- **The Committee for the Civil Rights of Prostitutes/CDCP onlus** was founded in 1982. It unfolds activities to aid prostitutes and to inculcate social policies finalised towards the improvement of the condition of those who prostitute themselves.

### **The Legal Framework**

Recent political and policing actions in Italy are impacting on the prostitution scene and changes are occurring as a result.

#### **At national level**

- New law by the Minister of Internal Affairs with more repressive measures on security and immigration matters.

- New prostitution bill by the Council of Ministers that would prohibit prostitution in anywhere in a public place, with punishment of up to 15 days imprisonment, and a fine up to €3000.

#### **At local level**

- Mayoral ordinances with more restrictive policies and legislation, policing becomes increasingly repressive.

- Wider powers of enforcement to police and military personnel, without the power of arrest, now work alongside municipal police forces in several cities.

### **Consequences**

- Legally marginal conditions for sex workers, whether at home or on the street

- Sharp decline of street-based sex work due to widespread violence and repression

- Great mobility and increased stigmatisation due to mayoral ordinances against prostitution

- Strong measures against migrants: writs of expulsion to EU countries SW and arrest and repatriation to non-EU countries SW, in accordance with the laws on immigration

- Victims of trafficking are less visible and more difficult to reach by NGO's ant to inform or support on health issues, Italian law, available services and protection program

- Reduced investigations against pimps and criminal organizations as authorities' main concern is to clear the streets of sex workers, through the use of harassment or fines.

- Favourable situation for criminal networks that responds to the needs of a market that is being restructured.

The law against trafficking (articles 18 and 13 – exploitation in prostitution and anti-trafficking respectively) has been extended to EU-community citizens who can have access to these assistance programs. As a matter of fact, the existent network of projects all over Italy provides shelter and assistance to people who have been exploited professionally other than victims of sexual exploitation.

### **The Prostitution Scene**

Prostitution in Italy is practiced indoor and on the streets in most equal numbers (60% outdoor and 40% indoor). As a result of the severe repressive measures against street sex workers, there has been a significant increase of indoor (flats) sex workers. Adverts are published on dailies and on the internet. Sex work is also practiced, illegally, in several nightclubs and bars. Most women who work in flats come from Latin America, Eastern Europe and Italy.

- A new phenomenon of Chinese massagers is gaining ground all over Italy. They work exclusively in massage parlours for men and only through newspaper ads. Sex work by the Chinese is offered at a cheap price and is accessible to the low/middle class and is thus at the reach of a large part of the population.

■ African women are still present in great numbers on the streets and the majority comes from Nigeria. Rumanians and Moldavians are also present on the streets in great numbers.

■ There are fewer women from new EU member countries like Poland, Hungary and the Baltic states. Hungarians and Russians are mostly present in clubs.

■ A discrete number of sex workers come from the Balkan countries such as Albania, former Yugoslavia and Kosovo. In general, the Albanians are old acquaintances and there are, therefore, no new arrivals from Albania.

The main working areas are the streets, expressways, major roads, strip malls or industrial areas at night. Mobility within the towns and the regions partly due to repressive actions and due economic reasons is very high.

Working rates vary from 20 up to 500 euros for indoor services. The lowest rates are applied by the Chinese in massage parlours. Sex workers work all day and all night on the streets and even in apartments but work only at night on the streets and in night clubs.

Associations operating in this sector estimate a maximum of 50.000 sex workers of which 90% migrants, and at least 15% transgender. Although male sex workers are present on the territory, no detailed studies have been carried out on them.

### **Vulnerability Factors**

#### **National sex workers**

- Social Isolation and exclusion
- Alcohol and Drug Dependency
- Client violence

#### **Migrant sex workers**

- Violence from organizers of sex industry
- Legal status in the country
- Social isolation and exclusion

## **LATVIA**

### **The Legal Framework**

Latvia heavily regulates sex work with the aim of reducing prostitution and aims to control sex workers through registration and mandatory health checks. Adult, individual prostitution (providing of sexual services in exchange for money) is not illegal, but any activity of a third party promoting prostitution is prohibited, thus generalizing the range of prohibited activities around promoting prostitution and including the maintenance, management of brothels or knowing financing or participating in the financing of such an establishment.

The violation of the above Regulations incurs administrative liability as well as criminal liability, if such acts are committed repeatedly within the same of one-year period after the imposition of an administrative penalty offenders, including sex workers (see provisions below), are criminally held liable and may face a prison sentence.

The Article 163 of the Criminal Law provides penalties for establishment, management, maintenance and financing of a brothel;

The Article 164 of the Criminal Law provides punishment for involving persons in prostitution and procuring of persons for prostitution, using their trust in bad faith, or by means of fraud, or by taking advantage of the dependence of the person on the offender or of his or her state of helplessness;

The Article 165 of the Criminal Law provides punishment for a person who commits taking advantage, for purposes of enrichment, of a person who is engaged in prostitution;

The Article 165 of the Criminal Law provides punishment for sending a person with his or her consent for sexual exploitation; however other aspects of prostitution, such as running public houses, pimping, sex with underage persons are qualified as crime and foresee imprisonment. In this way anything that is connected to prostitution, is criminalised, but prostitution itself is not a crime.

■ Prostitution is regulated by the Provisions Restrictive of Prostitution that was amended in January 2008. Comparing to the previous regulations (2001) there are more limitations, the

most important one – it is strictly determined where one is allowed to offer, provide, and receive sexual services in order to achieve a decrease of the accessibility of sexual services.

New Provisions (2008) contain the following set of rules:

■ Engaging in prostitution is prohibited for underage persons and persons who do not have a health card. A health card is issued to prostitutes by a certified dermatovenerologist upon an initial examination. Medical institutions and medical doctors receive the cards from the governmental health statistics and medical technology agency.

■ Persons are allowed to offer and provide paid sexual services in indoor premises (apartment, house) that they own or rent.

■ Prostitution is prohibited in the following indoor premises: if located less than 100 meters from educational institutions or churches; if located close to underage children/young people; if other individuals who reside in the same premises object to it. If these regulations are violated, the premises will be closed down.

■ It is prohibited to offer and provide sexual services in groups.

■ Managers of entertainment and vacation places are responsible for public order. They are obliged to restrict prostitution within their premises.

■ Prostitutes must undergo monthly mandatory health checks with a certified dermatovenerologist. Information about the health status is recorded on the health card.

■ Prostitutes are not allowed to continue work while in medical treatment or medical or serological surveillance for an infectious disease. If HIV-antibodies are detected or person has AIDS it's prohibited to prostitute henceforward.

■ The advertisement and promotion of sexual services through the Internet, in the press and other mass media (except for erotic editions) as well as through another person's mediation is prohibited.

■ Any action by a third party to promote prostitution is prohibited.

■ Prostitutes have to display the health card at the client's demand.

The ongoing law enforcement initiatives by police and local authorities, against both street-based sex workers and on the indoor sex industry, have resulted in both

sex workers and clients seeking alternative means of contacting one another.

### **The Prostitution Scene**

The actual number of sex workers is debatable and a shift of sex workers into different settings is also growing. Along with migration to other EU countries sex work within Latvia is changing as well. The number of sex workers on the streets has decreased with more sex workers moving into brothels, clubs, and bars. Since 2006 there has been an increase in the number of sex workers using print or web advertising to offer services out of apartments. However the prohibition on the advertisement of sexual services has made it more difficult for both independent escorts and independent sex workers working in apartments to work despite the fact that regulation allows for sex work to take place in private places such as apartments.

According to the State Police *Human Trafficking Report for the first 6 months of 2009* which compares data from the same period in 2008 there appears to be more pimps – both male and female and individuals or groups – operating in Latvia.

Sex work takes place all Latvian cities in both open and clandestine settings.

Riga, the capital of Latvia, has the broadest range of sex services available. Sex workers work on the streets, around the central rail station and central market, in brothels, bars and apartments, through escort services, in independent apartments and along parks, highways and roads in border areas. Both national and legal migrant sex workers are working in these settings.

Mobility within and outside of the country is very high. Also the mobility of clients is quite high; determined by the tourism season, the numbers of truck drivers and the geographical location of the country.

### **Vulnerability Factors**

#### **National sex workers**

The vulnerability of national sex workers has increased with regard to working conditions. The enforcement of the new regulations means sex workers are unable to work together in

groups and as a result are less safe, more isolated, in a weaker negotiating position with clients, and more vulnerable to danger and violence. Latvia is also experiencing changes in the prostitution scene coinciding with the current economic crisis as more young women seek options in sex work to escape poverty in rural areas or because lower levels of education and/or little of no other work experience means they have few income earning possibilities.

#### **Migrant sex workers**

Migrant sex workers are more vulnerable to violence and abuse from clients, lack of police protection and pressure or violence from owners, managers and pimps. The precarity of the legal status of non-EU migrants is the main cause of an increase in social isolation and exclusion. Migrant sex workers working in closed indoor settings are in a greater situation of dependency on third parties.

## **LITHUANIA**

■ The NGO **Demetra** runs a drop-in centre for sex workers and carries out outreach work among sex workers, including drug using sex workers. Association of HIV/AIDS affected women is also base by **Demetra**.

### **The Legal Framework**

#### **■ Sex Work**

The Lithuanian government has worked out a legal amendment (2005) to impose fines on both sex workers and their clients. Engaging in prostitution or paying for prostitution services is subject to a fine from three hundred to five hundred Litas (90-150 euro). For repeat offenders the fine is from five hundred to one thousand Litas or administrative detention for a term of up to thirty days.

A person who was engaged in prostitution shall not be prosecuted to administrative liability if he was involved in prostitution being dependent economically, through employment or being dependent in any other way, or engaged into prostitution by force or coercion, or deceit, or was engaged into prostitution in whatever way whilst being an underage or/and is a victim of trafficking in persons and is recognized as a victim in the legal proceedings.

■ Since 2005 Lithuania criminalised the purchasers of sexual services and retained the criminalisation of sellers of sexual services. The introduction of this law and the entry of Lithuania have contributed to pushing sex work underground and increased barriers for sex workers to report crimes against them. Since 2005 no new laws relating to prostitution have come into place.

The positive change reported above reflects new anti-trafficking legislation of the Republic of Lithuania which now complies with the requirements for the control and prevention of trafficking in human beings as prescribed by international legal acts, in particular, of the United Nations, the European Union, the Council of Europe, Interpol, Europol, and other international institutions.

### **The Prostitution Scene**

The number of sex workers has significantly decreased after Lithuania accessed to the EU in 2004. According to our data we estimate that there are approximately 500-800 sex workers in Vilnius. In the harbour city of Klaipeda and the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city of Kaunas we estimate that there are 400 and 350 sex workers respectively. Approximately 10% to 12% are migrant sex workers.

A number of sex workers left for West European countries to profit from potential higher earnings. The number of migrant sex workers has also decreased in Lithuania. Our information tells us this is because women from, in particular Ukraine, Russia and Belarus are no longer working in Lithuania before heading to western European countries. Finally, we have observed local migration of women from counties and districts who come to find work in Vilnius and larger cities in Lithuania.

Increasing repression of sex work settings is also evident. As mentioned above over the last several years police and authorities have closed some of the biggest brothels, clubs and saunas. As a result there are fewer businesses being operated by organised criminals in the main areas known for prostitution and more women are moving to more independent ways of working. In a positive way this has resulted in more women working independently or in small groups. However the working conditions, especially for migrant workers, in the remaining criminally operated brothels, clubs and escort services are worsening.

■ **Sectors:** Prostitution in Lithuania is practiced indoor and on the streets in most equal numbers: 57% outdoor and 43% indoor. An increase in the numbers of street-based sex workers since 2006 can be related to an increasing general social problem in Lithuania of drug use. Those migrants who are working on the streets are mainly also doing so in order to pay for drugs.

Street-based sex workers are overwhelmingly Lithuanian nationals and migrants from Belarus

### **Vulnerability Factors**

#### **National sex workers**

- Lack of access to health & social care services. Drug and alcohol dependency
- Criminalisation of sex industry
- Police violence & harassment
- Social isolation and exclusion
- Stigma and discrimination

#### **Migrant sex workers**

- Legal status in the country
  - Mobility
  - Police violence & harassment
  - Social isolation and exclusion
- Violence from organisers of sex industry

■ There is a lack of services for sex workers in Lithuania. The majority of existing medical and social services have limited capacity to serve uninsured persons. Access to services for target groups such as sex workers should not depend on whether or not they are insured. We also recommend measures to raise awareness among sex workers on the possibility of gaining private insurance.

■ Sex work itself is not criminalised in Lithuania although laws are in places which criminalise some activities related to prostitution. Criminalisation is an obstacle to access of services. There is a need to develop evidence based human rights approach in advocating for the rights of sex workers and their ability to access to services without discrimination.

■ Police violence and harassment of sex workers is an issue. We propose advocacy and immediate reaction to human rights violations toward sex workers, in particular in relation to police raids. A “watch dog” body

should be established to monitor police actions toward sex workers.

■ To prevent social isolation and exclusion sex workers need service provision that is non-judgemental and provides real opportunity for personal skills building, alternative job opportunities and self-organising. Targeted services need to be developed for sex workers affected by drugs and alcohol.

■ Stigma and discrimination must be tackled effectively using a range of methods to promote the human rights of sex workers and to combat negative stereotyping and victimisation.

■ The precarious status of migrant sex workers is a major contributor to their vulnerability. Most migrant sex workers have no health insurance in Lithuania. Migrant sex workers must receive a minimum guarantee of access to services regardless of their residency status.

■ Migrant sex workers are highly mobile. Service provision to this group needs to be better networked both within Lithuania and with neighbouring countries such as Russia, Ukraine in order to guarantee minimal access to health, psychosocial and legal services. Services should be culturally and linguistically appropriate for migrants. Cultural mediators could help to assure this.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

■ The **DropIn** is supervised by the Red Cross and is the only specialized service provider for sex workers in Luxembourg.

### **The Legal Framework**

Luxembourg’s legislation relating to sex work is on a federal level. Prostitution under 18 years is not allowed by law, and upper 18 years the practice is no more mentioned in legislation.

Street prostitution is regulated by a regulation of the settlement of the city of Luxembourg.

It is only allowed to work in two streets near the station area of the city of Luxembourg between 8 pm and 3 am. The police are controlling this area. If the prostitutes work on other times and places, they get punishments up to 2500 euro.

It is clear that the very limited space and the limited time schedule are leading to

several problems. Too many sex workers have to share the space foreseen by the regulation. So they disperse also in other streets and they take the risk to be punished or arrested for prostitution outside the legal area. The sex workers have to work during the night and they have to cope with a more dangerous clientele and a more difficult handling of their family live.

The fines for the prostitutes go up to 2500 euro. It is possible to pay the fines by weekly pay-offs but this is a vicious circle: if the prostitute has to pay these fines she is forced to work for it and she transgresses another time the regulation, because she often has to work during the day or on another place to pay-off her debts.

■ **Regarding future trends** - it exists already a proposed law on prostitution. This draft law aims to introduce in the Penal Code to ban the purchase of sexual services.

The authors of the proposed law argue now for the substitution of conventional sentences (fine and deprivation of liberty) and they judge the Swedish approach as the only acceptable approach for prostitution. This means that they want to focus on the awareness of the buyers of sexual services. They intent to modify the present law in the following meaning:

The person who purchased or attempted to buy sexual services will be punished by works of general interest respectively mandatory participation in interactive seminars on prostitution for a period between 10 and 20 hours.

The public debate on the proposed law took place a year ago. In terms of political parties there were pros and cons. It is hard to tell whether this law will one day be voted or not because we actually hear not much about it.

In any case the debate last year has resulted in great confusion and insecurity among prostitutes and customers. The police become increasingly visible and repressive in the area.

### **The Prostitution Scene**

The *DropIn Croix-Rouge Luxembourg* is the only organisation in Luxembourg that provides focused services to sex workers, including migrant sex workers; mainly to those living and working in the city of Luxembourg. As a result it is difficult to describe the current prostitution scene with accuracy. However given that the

majority of sex workers are working in the capital city it is possible to give a few details and rough estimates. Approximately five thousand sex workers work during a year in Luxembourg, mainly in the capital city. Of this total we estimate that almost 92% are migrant sex workers living and working in a country where almost 40% of all inhabitants are migrants. Recently, we notice that more and more users of the *Dropln Croix-Rouge* are no longer working on the street. The majority of our contacts have traditionally been with street-based sex workers and we believe that the visible side of the prostitution scene is the smallest in Luxembourg with a majority of sex workers working in cafés, discos, hotels, and flats. Last year we began an initiative to make telephone contact with sex workers who are advertising in newspapers. We notice that they work mainly in small groups of 4 to 5 sex workers in a flat.

Sex workers are divided by gender:

- Female 70%, Male 5% and Transgender 25%

- 92 % of female sex workers are migrants. 50 % of male are migrants and 94 % of transgender are migrants.

- Prostitution scene in our country: 33 % outdoor and 67 % indoor.

Prostitution scene of migrant sex workers: 30 % outdoor (streets in the city) and 70 % indoor (clubs, discos, bars, café 5 %, apartments 60% and visiting services 5 %)

- The main countries origin of migrant sex workers: Nigeria, Brazil, Ghana, Romania, Bulgaria, France, Belgium, Germany, Colombia and Congo.

### **Vulnerabilities Factors**

#### **National sex workers**

National sex workers are facing serious difficulties including problems with drug use, criminal victimisation and violence, financial stresses and debt, and greater social isolation and exclusion. These difficulties are compounded by the stigma sex workers face and the discrimination they experience in society.

Sex work is not seen as a socially accepted way to earn money. As a result discrimination plays a large role in preventing national sex workers from being able to live and work under

safe and healthy conditions. Those sex workers who are also dealing with drug dependency are at even greater risk and most find it difficult to access and receive unbiased care and support from health and social care professionals, are isolated by other sex workers for using drugs and by drug users for selling sex services; they live in a vicious circle.

Violence through criminal involvement or at the hands of others, including clients, is all too common for national sex workers; there is a relationship to where most sex work takes place in Luxembourg.

Prostitution is only tolerated in the same areas that are known to be higher drug and crime areas or the (*"quartier chaud"*). Forcing different milieus to occupy the same areas without providing any social support puts national sex worker in close contact with those who can easily target them, harm them and/or exploit them. Further, many national sex workers have to work at night and cope with more dangerous clientele and a more difficult handling of their family live. National sex workers live from day to day, from one moment to the other, with little positive perspective for the future and difficulty balancing work and private life.

#### **Migrant sex workers**

Many of the problems faced by national sex workers are also experienced by migrant sex workers although the main vulnerability factor for migrant sex workers is social isolation and exclusion as a result of their migrant status. Through our outreach work we have noticed a change in the general characteristics of sex workers in Luxembourg. The majority of sex workers are migrants but more recently we are seeing migrants who have less education and weaker social skills

In addition, we are seeing small groups of young impressionable women in particular, often with very little life experience, arriving in Luxembourg and getting caught up in dangerous situations. This group of migrant sex workers seems to be more vulnerable to risk taking and less able to establish healthy boundaries in their work and relationships. In particular, young transgender sex workers are vulnerable to loneliness and isolation. To mitigate this they often work in small groups in apartments.

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

- **TAMPEP** was found in 1993 in response to the needs of (migrant) sex workers in 25 countries in Europe. It is a networking and intervention project focussed on assessing the situation and needs of female and transgender sex workers from Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America and on developing appropriate responses.

### **The Legal Framework**

Prostitution has been legalised in the Netherlands since 2000. Originally intended to create a licensing system that harmonised the sex industry with labour law, tax systems, immigration law, health regulations, and public order measures, the focus of policy implementation has shifted since 2006 to prioritise stricter controls of work places and workers, particularly migrant sex workers, over improving the working conditions and social status of sex workers. Most sex workers would not describe the current situation in favourable terms and would argue that they have less autonomy, more obligations and little formal recognition or support of their rights.

- The Dutch government has been drafting a new legal framework for prostitution in the Netherlands since May of 2008. The main stated objectives of the new legal framework are to correct the disparities in policy implementation across municipalities and to improve the means to combat trafficking and exploitation. However, there are several proposals within the draft legislation that will further seriously affect the living and working conditions of sex workers, including compulsory registration of all sex workers working in all areas of the sex industry; whether fulltime, part-time or occasional workers, further closures of brothels and restrictions on licensing and street-based prostitution, and possibly criminalising clients who pay for services of unregistered sex workers; whether they are nationals, legal migrants or undocumented migrants. The end result is increased control of sex workers, fewer legal work places, and more pressure on (migrant) sex workers to move to clandestine and less safe sex work settings.

Despite the objectives of the government it is unlikely that the new legal framework will achieve its goals without first

prioritising the safety and well-being of (migrant) sex workers. Most newcomers to the sex industry in NL are from the recently associated EU countries – they already have the right to establish themselves as independent sex workers. In a system so complicated by regulations and controls migrant sex workers are at a distinct disadvantage because of language and a lack of knowledge and they will likely continue to depend on intermediaries who can easily take advantage of their vulnerability.

■ Plans to introduce legislation criminalising clients who pay for services from unregistered sex workers or from those working in unlicensed locations, will not have a positive impact on (migrant) sex workers or serve to reduce vulnerability. This proposed law is criticised by many organisations in NL who advocate for the health and rights of (migrant) sex workers and who believe it will be used as a tool to control the freedom of movement and freedom of choice of all sex workers, in particular, migrant sex workers.

■ In more recent years, the media and the political discourse on prostitution has become more conservative in the Netherlands, supporting more aggressive interventions into the lives and work situations of sex workers, largely without consultation with the affected communities. An example of this shift is the idea of empowerment being linked to exit support rather than labour rights. Several municipalities have begun exit programs for sex workers.

Similarly, over the last years several municipalities, including Amsterdam, under the excuse of combat against trafficking in human beings, the screening of the legality of the management of sex business and the city development planning, the authorities started to diminish drastically the number of prostitution establishments and locations. The impact of these trends is certain that the legal sex industry in the Netherlands will diminish.

■ Repressive control leading to the closure of brothels and windows will reduce the options for legal and protected work spaces for sex workers. We are already seeing the effect of window closures in

Amsterdam where scarcity is working to the advantage of window owners who are raising rental fees. Such changes places increased financial pressure on the mainly migrant sex workers who rent from them. Many national and migrant sex workers will seek other places to work as will the exploitive controllers of sex workers, making them increasingly vulnerable to abuse.

### **The Prostitution Scene**

According to the estimations of the different service provider organizations and data from the municipalities about the number of licensed sex business venues, there are approximately 10.000 to 15.000 women, men, and transgender working as sex workers on a full or a part-time basis in the Netherlands, in a one year period. The total number of prostitution places has been in a steady decline since 2005. We estimate that since legal reform in 2000 there has been more than a 50% reduction of the prostitution sector accompanied by the steady reduction of number of sex workers. Due to the impact of legal prostitution venues closing, changing local policies on prostitution and closure of street prostitution tolerance zones, the total number of sex workers has almost halved.

■ About 60% of them are migrants; 43% of migrants sex workers are from the new EU countries of Central (Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland), followed by Latin America (20%), West Europe (12%) Eastern Europe (8%), Balkan countries (4%) Africa (8%) Asia (4%).

The last years there has been a significant increase in the percentage of sex workers from Central and East Europe, as consequence of the enlargement of the European Union in 2004 and in 2007.

### **Structure**

Since the last TAMPEP mapping we have observed a progressive increase in indoor prostitution (92%). Currently street prostitution is tolerated only in six cities and subject to strict control. Sex workers working in these settings must be in possession of a permit. There is an observable shift to smaller forms of prostitution with less than 3 women in a working place (apartments and windows). This shift to independent work settings can in part be attributed to the licensing system. Currently new policy is being drafted that will place licensing obligations on small operators and

independent sex workers as well. The escort sector remains more or less stable.

■ The majority of migrant sex workers are working indoors; however, in 2008 we see a higher percentage of migrant sex workers working in outdoor settings. This shift may be a result of the location of street tolerance zones, three of which are in border areas cities, and recent developments at the EU level which allow Romanian and Bulgarian migrants to obtain permits to work independently in sex work.

■ Migrant transgender sex workers make up a sizeable percentage of migrant sex workers in outdoor settings. For example, the street tolerance zone in Utrecht issues 150 permits to work on the tolerance zone and of that number, 33% have been issued to transgender sex workers of whom 30% are migrants.

### **Vulnerability Factors**

#### **National sex workers**

- Social isolation and exclusion
- Alcohol + drug dependency
- Violence from organisers of the sex industry
- Stigma
- Client violence

#### **Migrant sex workers**

- Social isolation and exclusion
- Violence from organisers of the sex industry
- Lack of access to health & and social care services
- Discrimination
- Client violence

■ Legalisation of prostitution in 2000 recognised sex work as a labour activity and extended labour rights to national and EU citizens in sex work. Despite this the majority of sex workers do not exercise their rights and in many cases are uninformed about their rights and obligations. The authorities have largely neglected the importance of supporting the position of sex workers as workers that would have given them the tools and knowledge to resist exploitation. As a result national sex workers have experienced little measurable improvement of their social position. Further, legalisation has led to greater regulation of the sex industry and to increasingly repressive policies and policy implementation. The ongoing closure of legal brothels and windows has precipitated a shift of sex workers to more

clandestine sex work settings; where the potential of control by organisers and dependency is greater. With little concrete support from authorities and in a bargaining position weakened by stigmatisation, financial pressures, exploitive third parties, and demanding clients, sex workers are struggling for better working conditions and social respect.

## NORWAY

■ **Pro Sentret** is a national centre for documentation, information and advice on prostitution issues. It is also a health- and social service: providing health services, counselling, drop-in centre, outreach and skills-acquisition.

### The Legal Framework

Selling sex is **not** illegal in Norway. Prostitution is not considered to be work, thus one cannot demand a working permit. It is therefore not illegal for an alien to sell sexual services in Norway. However, in practise the alien law comes into action for those who do not have an EU/EEA passport. If a non-EU/EEA citizen cannot prove that she has a valid return ticket and enough money for her own support (a place to live and a daily amount of ca 65€) she can be deported.

Pimping and organising are illegal. This includes renting out premises for prostitution and advertising for sexual services (buying, selling or procuring). We notice that the police recently are more eager to enforce this law, disturbing the indoor part of the marked, in order to reduce it.

Since January 2009 the law **prohibiting the purchase of sexual services** came into effect. In practice this is a blue-print of the "Swedish model": all purchase is illegal – no difference between forced or voluntary prostitution is recognised. The law also applies to Norwegian residents buying sex abroad and there is a higher level of penalty for those buying sex from anyone under 18 years. It is too early to say anything definite about the laws' impact on sex workers, but a recent report from Bergen and our own experience tells us that:

- The marked has changed to be "buyers marked, the sellers also take responsibility to protect the buyers.
- There is more competition and lower income, and more stress among sex workers
- Some street workers look for other income like begging
- Many sex workers have an increased feeling of insecurity, though we cannot yet document increased violence
- Less women trust the police, and fewer are likely to report crimes
- Migrants report about family problems as family members rely on their income
- Sex workers' use of service providers has decreased
- It is harder to find accommodation to live and work, due to the increased focus on the pimping legislation and the new law prohibiting the purchase of sexual services. Accordingly the rents are increasing and there is more dependency upon 3.party
- Sex workers experience more harassment from the civil society (and sometimes the police)

According to Civil Penal Code § 224 human trafficking is forbidden. Human trafficking means any person who by force, threats, misuse of another person's vulnerability, or other improper conduct exploits another person for the purpose of prostitution or other sexual purposes, forced labour, war service in a foreign country, or removal of any of the said person's organs, or who induces another person to allow himself or herself to be used for such purposes. Punished is also anybody who facilitates trafficking. If the victim is under the age of 18 the perpetrator can be punished regardless of the use of violence, threats etc.

Norway has a National Action Plan against Trafficking 2006-09. A 6 months "reflection period" is granted to alleged victims of trafficking. The "reflection period" is temporary a residency- and working permit. After the 6 months one can apply for a one-year residency permit, but the terms are hard, including pressing charges against the traffickers and cooperation with the police.

### The Prostitution Scene

The national mapping assess that there was 3300 sex workers in 2008. 45% in street prostitution and 55% at the indoor

marked, that is parlours, flats and mobile prostitution. Approximately 65 % of all sex workers are migrants.

The new law has brought about changes, and it is too early to assess the long-term effects. We noticed a dramatic decrease in sex work both indoor and in street prostitution when the law came into effect. During the summer months there has been increased activity in the prostitution scene, especially in street prostitution, where the numbers of sex workers has increased notably. Figures indicate that indoor prostitution has decreased by 20 % (compared to last year). Street-prostitution has in July 2009 dropped by 20 % compared to 2007 and 40 % compared to the same month in 2008. It is important to note that 2008 was a very special year due to an increase of about 70 % of Nigerian women in street-prostitution.

How the scene develops will depend upon the police's priorities in enforcing the law and controlling the marked.

### Vulnerability Factors

#### Migrant sex workers

The main vulnerabilities for migrant sex workers are assumed to be the enforcement of migration laws, stigma, social isolation, exploitation and low knowledge of legal rights.

#### National sex workers

For national sex workers the vulnerabilities are assumed to be stigmatisation, drug use, access to social- and health care, isolation and violence. The violence they face is as often perpetrated by intimate partners and family as it is by clients. We do fear that the law prohibiting the purchase of sex services in Norway will put street-based sex workers with a drug dependency at greater risk of violence and undermine their ability to negotiate personal and sexual safety with clients.

Both national and migrant sex workers are impacted by the stigma attached to sex work and prostitution. Migrant sex workers are also vulnerable as a result of their status as migrants. Migrant sex workers from outside of the Schengen area can not easily acquire work permits; as a result their options are limited to working in unregulated sectors. In addition, migrant sex workers from outside the Schengen area have less rights and fear of deportation is a major

barrier to seeking assistance from police and some other state support services.

## POLAND

■ TADA informs about HIV and STI, advocates for sex workers, brings up the idea of harm reduction, organizes symposiums, meetings with organizations acting in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention, and does outreach.

### The Legal Framework

Sex work related crimes in Polish law (the law has not been changed since last year):

■ To force someone to sex work (art 203 penal code)

■ To induce someone to sex work or to make it feasible (art. 204 § 1 P.C.)

■ To benefit from someone's sex work (art. 204 § 2 P.C.)

■ To traffic someone in purpose of sex work abroad (art. 204 §4 P.C.)

The crime also is to knowingly expose someone to HIV infection (art 161 § 1 P.C.). Penalty: imprisonment up to 3 years to knowingly expose someone to infection with STD or infectious disease, or other incurable disease (art 161§ 2). Penalty: fine, limitation of liberty or imprisonment up to 1 year.

### The Prostitution Scene

Approximately 10,000 sex workers working in Poland of which around 34% are migrant sex workers.

The indoor sector form the 60% of the sex industry,

Most of sex workers moved from outdoor settings to indoor settings and as a result is less visible and it has become more difficult to provide outreach services.

■ Majority of national sex workers is being concentrated in covered clubs located in municipal apartments, flats or houses and access roads. Minority of SW works in sign-boarded clubs and brothels over the boarder spots

There are still sex workers working next to the roads and highways and in cities centre. Street work forms the 40% of the sex work sector.

■ According to TADA's research, the main nationalities of sex workers are: Poles, Ukrainian, Belarusian, Russian, Moldavian, Lithuanian and Bulgarian.

Migratory trends in Poland changed. Poland became a transit country for sex workers from Romania and Bulgaria. There is also a considerable regional spread regarding migration and sex work within the country. The data of the Eastern part of the country is well assessed but there is a lack of information regarding the Western part and especially the border regions with the Ukraine and with Belarus.

### Vulnerability Factors

#### National sex workers

- Lack of access to health & social care
- Violence from organisers of the sex industry
- Discrimination
- Alcohol and drug dependency
- Lack of protection from the law enforcement agencies

#### Migrant sex workers

- Violence from organisers of the sex industry
- Lack of access to health & social care
- Discrimination
- Alcohol and drug dependency
- Client violence

## PORTUGAL

■ The ARS Norte /Autoestima Project is a GO under the Northern Health Regional Administration of the Ministry of Health. It targets sex workers. The aim is to increase their level of health and to protect them from the risk of HIV/STI infection.

### The Legal Framework

#### ■ Sex work

In Portugal, there is no legislation specifically related to sex work. Sex work is not regulated and there is no mention of it in the Portuguese legislation. Sex work itself is not a crime, although sex work is not formally recognised as a profession. There is no legal framework to protect the rights of sex workers, which puts them in a vulnerable situation. For example, because sex work is not considered a form of labour, it is impossible to receive a work contract for practicing this activity.

The Portuguese Penal Code entails regulations on pandering or pimping (Art. 107 from 1 October 1995). This article states: 'Those who professionally or for profit intend to promote, favour or facilitate the prostitution of another person, the engagement in sexual activities or to capitalise on another person's economic instability or disadvantaged position in this way is subject to a prison sentence from six months to five years'.

#### ■ Migration

There are no specific provisions for migrants regarding sex work. There are no restrictions regarding the residency of EU citizens in Portugal. Non-EU citizens may apply for a residence permit on several grounds, including: a work contract, marriage, motherhood, sponsorship through a family member or other person, study, research etc.

For non-EU citizens, receiving a residence permit is contingent upon proof of a valid work contract. Because sex work is not recognized as a form of labour, it is very difficult to obtain a work contract in this area of work. Although the working conditions are generally good, the fact that no sex workers have a valid work contract puts them in an even more illegal and vulnerable situation.

### The Prostitution Scene

There is no reliable estimate of the total number of sex workers in Portugal. We do know that GO and NGO organisations participating in the TAMPEP national mapping survey had a combined total of 9695 unique contacts with sex workers at the time of the mapping.

■ **Gender of sex workers:** 90% Female, 8% Male, 2% Transgender.

■ **Status of sex workers:** 44% Nationals, 56% Migrants.

■ **Origins of migrants:** 65% Latin America and Caribbean, 17% Africa, 8% Eastern Europe, 7% Central Europe, 1% Balkan Countries, 1% Baltic Countries, 1% Rest of Europe.

Portugal has a high number of migrant sex workers from Latin American countries and in particular from Brazil. Language and established networks influence the migration decisions of Brazilian migrant sex workers. Also as it is relatively easy to obtain a short-term tourist visa of three months Portugal has become a first country of entry for many African women coming into Europe who

may then travel on to other west Europe countries.

■ **Sex work sector settings:**

Nationals (indoor 41%; outdoor 59%);  
Migrants (indoor 55%; outdoor 45%)

**Vulnerability Factors**

**National sex workers**

- Alcohol and drug dependency
- Social isolation and exclusion
- Discrimination
- Violence from organisers of the sex industry
- Economic situation

**Migrant sex workers**

- Legal status in the country
- Lack of access to health and social care services
- Social isolation and exclusion
- Violence from organisers of the sex industry
- Economic situation

## ROMANIA

■ **ARAS/ The Romanian**

**Association Against AIDS** does HIV/AIDS prevention and offer services for the general population and specially for the vulnerable population, and advocates for the human rights of the vulnerable population.

**The Legal Framework**

Sex work is illegal and punished according with the Penal Code with bill or prison (3 months to 3 years);

The traffic is also illegal and punished by imprisonment (3-10 years and to 18 years if involves minors); SW facilitation is punished by imprisonment (2-7 years).

As the sex work is illegal, the public safety authorities routinely arrest or at least give them a fine; SW get tens of fines each months, which they are unable to pay.

The criminalisation of prostitution contributes to the vulnerability of national and migrant sex workers. As a result of criminalisation increasing numbers of national sex workers are leaving Romania to work in other European countries. With entry into the EU migrant sex workers from Romania are seeing their situation gradually improve in some EU countries. For those who stay working

in sex work in Romania many are shifting to indoor settings in order to avoid police harassment.

**The Prostitution Scene**

No accurate estimations of the number of sex workers are available in Romania. The survey respondents had contact with 2534 sex workers (unique codes) in 2008; however, it is assumed the total number of sex workers could be as much as 50% higher. Of the total number estimated approximately 2% are migrant sex workers, mainly from Moldova.

■ **Gender of sex workers:** 97% female, 2% male, 1% transgender.

Among national sex workers a large number are Roma and more recently male sex work has become more visible.

■ **Sex work sector settings:** Outdoor 64%, Indoor 36%.

Since Romania entered European Union, many sex workers preferred to leave the country and work in better conditions and in countries where prostitution is not criminalised. This is a reason why the level of street based prostitution has decreased comparing with the past years.

**Vulnerability Factors**

**National sex workers**

The main cause of the vulnerability of sex workers in Romania is the criminalization of sex workers and the sex industry. Because prostitution is penalized, national sex workers face substantial barriers to social inclusion; for many it is impossible to obtain identification papers, most have no access to bank credit and there are almost no opportunities for "legitimate" work. Repeated fines for practicing prostitution mean that many sex workers end up having huge debts owing to the state – this creates a huge barrier to obtaining identification papers in case they need it. In some cases such papers get lost but they may be taken from them by pimps or they may have never had papers at all. Social exclusion also means that national sex workers have a lack of access to medical and social services and support.

In addition the criminalisation of sex work pushes national sex workers into depending on controllers or pimps as it is almost impossible for sex workers to survive in the criminal environment of most sex work settings without a "protector." Roma sex workers and in particular young Roma women are highly

vulnerable to exclusion, exploitation, and violence because of the discrimination they face as ethnic minorities in the country.

■ A further consequence of the legal status of prostitution in Romania is the migration of national sex workers to other European countries where they can access health and social services and where sex work is either decriminalised or not as heavily policed. Almost 80% of sex workers from Romania are often moving to other countries in search of better earnings, better living and working conditions and because they can have better access to health services despite their migrant status.

Forced to live and work under such marginalised and unprotected conditions national sex workers are very vulnerable to violence from organisers of sex industry and from the police. Turning to the police for protection is not an option as the law criminalises sex workers and in most cases the police do not take into account official complaints of violence or other crime against sex workers when they do contact police. Professionals in many other public services also continue to treat sex workers in a judgemental and discriminatory manner so few national sex workers trust service providers and as a result lack information about their rights and about services that are available to them.

■ There are many actions that could be taken to reduce the vulnerability of national sex workers, including among others, addressing the barriers to sex workers having equal protection of the law, developing anti-discrimination programs for police, authorities and health and social service staff who have contact with sex workers, helping national sex workers to learn personal safety skills, and develop and disseminate promotional and educational materials for sex workers about their right to respectful treatment and access to services

## SLOVAKIA

■ **C.A. ODYSEUS** provides outreach services for drug users and/or sex workers in the area of Bratislava. Odyseus also promotes human rights of those using drugs and/or working in sex industry and takes a part in advocacy campaigns focused on promoting and protecting human rights of sex workers.

### The Legal Framework

Sex work is not regulated and there is no law that specifically addresses sex work. The Slovakian Penal Code (Act no. 300/2005), in effect since 1 January 2006, deals with pimping, trafficking in human beings and coercion into prostitution. The punishment in such cases is a prison sentence ranging from one to twelve years, depending on the severity of the crime. The Penal Code is a national law. Some districts in the capital city of Bratislava (districts I, II and III) have accepted local regulations that go against the Slovakian Constitution and fundamental human rights. These regulations concern persons engaging in sexual intercourse in public. In reality however, only sex workers and their clients are prosecuted under this law and subjected to fines around 33 Euros administered by the Bratislava city police or state police. As far as we know, there are no similar regulations in other districts or towns in Slovakia. Sex workers working in clubs are usually hired as dancers. Generally, the provision of sexual services is not part of their official contract, if they have a contract. Sex work is not considered a legal profession in Slovakia. For this reason, employees working as dancers, in strip clubs, bars or massage parlours belong to an illegalised sector of the labour market. Half of the employee's pay goes to club owner or to the owner of private flats.

■ There are hardly any migrants in the sex industry in Slovakia and there is no legislation that specifically addresses issues relating to migrant sex workers. The only legal protection available to migrant sex workers is in relation to trafficking, coercion into prostitution and other criminal activities in the Slovakian Penal Code. Both Slovakian and migrant sex workers are subject to the same local regulations. EU citizens are not required to apply for a residence permit; non-EU citizens need a visa

■ Present legal situation in Slovakia allows violation of human rights of sex workers and support violent against sex workers from official representatives of state as well as from public. Restrictive migration policies don't count with possible migration to sex industry and therefore

potential migrants among sex workers are highly vulnerable.

■ There are no changes in the migration scene. The majority of sex workers in Slovakia are national sex workers, many of them work in different parts of Slovakia as in their place of origin. There are some migrants from the former Soviet Union who are in contact with other NGOs who provide services on the eastern part of Slovakia.

### The Prostitution Scene

■ We estimate that in Slovakia can work app. 7500 persons in sex work. From that number about 2500 persons have contact to social services. From the prostitution mapping we found out that 93% are female sex workers and 7% are male sex workers. We have almost no contact with transgender individuals offering sexual services.

■ From total number of female sex workers are only 2% migrants. Male sex workers are 100% national sex workers.

■ From the information collected within country we have to say that 70% of sex workers work outdoor and 30% in indoor setting. The percentage of indoor is underestimate as in Slovakia are no organisations providing services for indoor sex workers, therefore few information is available regarding the extension of the indoor.

■ Almost 100% of those who provide sexual services on the street are Slovakian nationals and 40% are Roma ethnicity. National sex workers demonstrate an extremely high level of mobility. Sex workers often come from smaller towns and move to the bigger cities for work. Most of them work along the highways or at truck stops. 80% of sex workers on the street in capital are drug users. The percentage differs from city to city. Those few migrant sex workers who were in touch with social services came from Hungary, Ukraine, Czech Republic and Russia.

### Vulnerability Factors

#### National sex workers

Client violence, alcohol + drug dependency, lack of access to health and social care services, social isolation and stigma. Many people in Slovakia consider violence against sex workers to be part of their job; therefore it is seen as normal. Sex workers face harassment because of non friendly legislation, ignorance of

police and public. They do not feel safe while working on the street and do not trust police either. There is no way sex workers can be treated with respect unless students of Police Academy are taught to understand sex-business as social-pathological phenomenon. Good starting point could be workshops on sex work for future policemen and policewomen, where they would get basic information on the topic as it is more difficult to change stereotypes once they have been interiorized. To promote sex workers status in society and reduce the stigma, we also need to concentrate more on public. Our experience shows that campaign targeted on general public is an effective way to achieve this. Media involvement, distribution of leaflets, postcards, talking to common people on the street while getting petition signatures...all of these can influence public's opinion. Lack of access to public health care is strongly connected with the fact vast majority of health services are high-threshold. Showing your ID is most likely necessary. Sex workers need to register and pay for the treatment if they do not have health insurance. Another problem, talking about public health care, is lack of sex workers' trust to institutions. This is related to disgust they are treated with by doctors. Our way of coping is collaboration with specialists from different fields. Informing them about who we are and what we do and then encouraging clients to visit them. We offer accompanying to help them rebuild the trust they have lost.

## **SLOVENIA**

■ **CARS/ Centre for AIDS prevention and vulnerable groups** is a non-governmental humanitarian organization operating in the area of prevention of HIV infection and offering different forms of support to everyone directly exposed to the risk of HIV/AIDS.

### The Legal Framework

#### ■ Prostitution

- The Amendment of the Act on Criminal Offences against Public Order and Peace decriminalization of prostitution
- Penal Code – abuse of prostitution (article 185)

### ■ Trafficking

- Penal Code – trafficking in human beings (article 387a)
- Aliens Act – provisions for victims of THB (article 38a)

### ■ Migration

- Aliens Act
- Citizenship Act of the Republic of Slovenia
- Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia
- Asylum Act

### The Prostitution Scene

■ **Prostitution** - Estimation: 1.400 to 3.000 persons. After the independence prostitution was on the rise. There was an increase of night bars. There is no street prostitution in Slovenia. The most widespread form of prostitution is the so-called mobile prostitution. Other forms include hotel and bar prostitution.

The majority of sex workers are female and nationals with only 30% of female sex workers being migrants. In Slovenia we have no reports of migrant sex workers who are male or transgender. Migrant sex workers come mostly from Eastern, Central Europe and Balkan countries.

Although the law does not contemplate sex work it is a reality and is openly advertised even beyond the border, especially along the Italian border.

The majority of sex work takes place indoors with only an estimated 2% occurring in outdoor settings such as city streets, parks and forests or highways. The majority of indoor prostitution is happening in apartments (70%), bars, and clubs. The number of escort agencies is very low.

### Vulnerability Factors

#### **National sex workers**

The main vulnerability factors for sex workers are social isolation and exclusion, stigma, discrimination, lack of regulation on sex work and lack of access to health and social care. Only those who live and work legally in the country have access to the health service. Moreover for migrant sex workers the legal status is a main factor of vulnerability.

Public debates and, consequently, media reports on prostitution, when it

was decriminalized in 2003, approached the topic of prostitution in a bipolar manner: on the one hand, prostitution was reduced to an economic activity and treated as a money-earning business; on the other hand, it was magnified as a controversial behaviour and a threat to “public morality.” The main reason for the vulnerability of national sex workers in our country is the lack of regulation of sex work and because, like for other marginalised groups, there is a strong stigma which persists in Slovenia. In general the sex workers we meet have a poor self-image and low self-esteem; they tend to hide from the public and are ill-equipped to pursue their human rights. Activities in the field of professional help and prevention should be implemented with outreach work, which is a method of health education and access to the services as well as community activities, aimed mainly at ensuring of health and reducing the professional risk of sex work.

In addition, there is a necessity to regulate sex work in Slovenia in the future as well as a need to provide strong public health social marketing and services for better accessibility of different health and social services.

## **SPAIN**

■ **HETAIRA, Association for the Defence of Sex Workers' Rights**, which main aim is the self-organization of sex workers, to empower and give them voice. They offer counselling and are a meeting place.

### The Legal Framework

While there is no law specifically forbidding or allowing prostitution in Spain, municipalities are able to implement local regulations in order to regulate prostitution, for example, in the last years campaigns targeting clients of prostitution have been implemented in Madrid, Málaga, and Sevilla. In most cases these campaigns involve hidden forms of police harassment. In addition, new prostitution regulation proposals are currently being considered in other cities in Spain such as Bilbao, Sevilla and Malaga, for instance. In some cities of Cataluña, such as Lérida and Barcelona, street-based sex workers have been fined for working in the street. Also in some cities, street sex work is prohibited under

council rules regarding uses of public spaces. These kinds of politics directly operate to push street-based sex work further underground and create conditions where sex workers lose their power to negotiate with their clients, increase health risks, and increase pressure to engage in activities sex workers would not do or bear under better circumstances.

Recently, two contradicting court cases have been published, indicating that their may be a shift occurring. Although we cannot be completely optimistic, these are small advances with respect to recognising sex work as a legitimate work.

In the judgement of the first case Justice Superior Tribunal of Cataluña (TSJC) recognised a labour relationship between a prostitute working in a club and the owner of that club setting a precedent for the way recognition of labour relationships in prostitution. This is a first and particularly remarkable because under criminal law in Spain the owner of the club could be accused of procuring, as he profits from someone the sexual activity of a third party.

The second judgements awarded the right to a Spanish sex worker, working autonomously, to register for Social Security and benefit from this social right.

In December of 2008, the Government passed the “Integral Plan against the Human Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation”, which introduced some important measures to support victims of trafficking and to combat trafficking in Spain. Unfortunately, we think this instrument is insufficient because, among other things, it does not differentiate between trafficking into prostitution and voluntary sex work, but we also believe that the period of reflexion should be extended for victims and their ability to access support and protection should not be dependent on whether or not they cooperate with authorities to denounce their exploiters.

### The Prostitution Scene

■ **Open spaces:** streets, roads, public parks, industrial parks. 37% of the sex work setting is street prostitution.

■ **Closed places:** brothels, clubs, bars and flats. 63% of sex work in Spain takes place in indoor settings, mainly in establishments.

With respect to the way the prostitution is structured in Spain the estimated percentages indicate that national sex workers are working mainly in indoor settings, a shift resulting from increases in repressive policies at the municipal level on street-based prostitution and police harassment of sex workers. Migrant sex workers however, are working almost equally in outdoor and indoor settings. Most outdoor sex work is street-based and to a lesser degree in parks or along highways. Additionally, for both nationals and migrants most indoor sex work is occurring in clubs, with a much smaller percentage working apartments. More recently the number of sex workers working in apartment settings has increased while numbers of those working in clubs and street-based sex work is declining.

90% of sex workers are migrant. There are 35 different nationalities identified by the mapping survey. The largest group of migrant sex workers are those originally from Latin America countries; shared language may be a motivating factor for migrating to Spain. In addition, greater numbers of migrants from Central East Europe EU countries are living and working here as a result of increased possibilities for legal migration and residency and there is a relatively large group of migrant sex workers in Spain from African countries such as Nigeria.

### **Vulnerability Factors**

There are different factors of vulnerability in our country affecting national sex workers. The most important is the illegal status of prostitution. In Spain, prostitution is neither prohibited nor recognized as a work therefore the social and labour rights of sex workers are not recognized; this has a direct impact on the other vulnerability factors, such as stigma, police harassment, and social isolation. Stigma is also perpetuated by the media and advertising campaigns that identify sex work only with sexual exploitation. Also vulnerability to abusive owners and poor working conditions in clubs is a factor related to the lack of recognition of labour rights. Organisations such as Hetaira, members of the National Platform for the Rights in the Sex Work and the Union "Comisiones Obreras," work together to oppose

repressive policies denying the recognition of sex workers rights that threaten to stigmatize sex workers further.

### **Migrant sex workers**

The irregular situation many migrants live and work under lacking residence and working permits provoke vulnerability and situation on dependency. Other important factors influencing the deterioration of quality of life for migrant and national sex workers is the social stigma they suffer because they work in prostitution and the isolation and social exclusion resulting from this.

## **SWITZERLAND**

■ **Aspasie** (sex workers' organisation), **APIS** (AIDS prevention for female sex workers), **MSW** (male sex workers), **Don Juan** (prevention for clients), **PROCORE** (network of 28 members, 24 sex work or HIV organisations and 5 independent sex workers networks)

### **The Legal Framework**

Sex work is legal in Switzerland. Local rules are more or less tolerant or repressive, which creates internal migration and mobility. With the new migration law (*Ausländergesetz*) the situation of migrants from non EU-countries is worsening. In case of trafficking, migrant sex workers only may stay in the country if cooperating with the police and this depends on local arrangements. The local prostitution rules are being completed by regional laws in French and Italian speaking regions. The Geneva state is at the moment writing its own law on prostitution and consults regularly Aspasie. New prostitution laws are also discussed in other regions (cantons) of Switzerland.

**Sexworkinfo.net** is a wiki database presenting regional laws regarding sex work, literature and resources. It is available online: [www.sexworkinfo.net](http://www.sexworkinfo.net)

### **The Prostitution Scene**

All forms of prostitution are available: Street sex work, massage parlours, sex centres, sauna clubs, escorts, etc. NGO's evaluate that there might be about 25'000 (official figures mention 14'000) persons active in sex work during one year all over the country, maybe 75% of them are migrants. The national study "*Marché du*

*sexe en Suisse: Etat des connaissances, best practices et recommandations*" 2009 shows that about 64% sex workers do work in salons/brothels, 13% work on the street, 11 % in bars, 10 % work in cabarets/striptease locale and about 2% in Escort Services. The study results will be soon published on [www.unige.ch/ses/socio](http://www.unige.ch/ses/socio)

According to statistics of APiS national programme their provenience in 2008 has slightly changed comparing to 2007: Latin America 36% (+ 2%), Eastern Europe 29% (- 1%), Africa 15% (- 5%), Asians 10% (- 1%), others 10% (+2%) from Countries such as Switzerland, Western Europe and USA.

Increase of population movement in the last years came through hardening of the general economical situation and through the bi-lateral agreements with 27 European countries: professionals as well as inexperienced women arrive from Hungary, Portugal and Spain (native Latin-Americans) with the idea to earn some good Swiss money. But the market is already saturated, no apartments are available, abuse, police control and deportation are frequent.

### **The national network and resources**

■ **PROCORE** - Each region in Switzerland has its own rules or laws and often its own associations supporting sex workers. For this reason 24 of these associations and 5 independent sex workers network through PROCORE and work on national level to lobby for sex worker's rights. [www.prokore.ch](http://www.prokore.ch)

■ **ASPASIE** - Originally founded in 1982 in Geneva, by and for sex workers, *Aspasie* aims at supporting and defending individually or collectively the rights of sex workers, alleviating stigmatisation, exclusion and violence connected to the practice of sex work, reduce health risks by coordinating numerous STI prevention programmes and being present on the streets with its Boulevards buses twice a week. As an NGO, *Aspasie* is financially supported by the city and state of Geneva, private and public agencies and it's member's donations and houses the following projects: [www.aspasie.ch](http://www.aspasie.ch)

■ **APIS** (AIDS prevention for female sex workers) implemented in 17 regions (CH) and Liechtenstein. During the year 2008 18'300 contacts have been established by 43 cultural mediators. This project

exists since 1992 and is backed up by local and national authorities.  
[www.aids.ch/f/ahs/apis.php](http://www.aids.ch/f/ahs/apis.php)

■ **MSW** (male sex work) does HIV/STI prevention and support for male sex workers in 3 regions since 1999. It also provides counselling programmes adapted to the specific needs of male prostitutes as well as an interactive website: [www.malesexwork.net](http://www.malesexwork.net) and [www.safeboy.ch](http://www.safeboy.ch) (in English, German, French, and Portuguese)

■ **DJ or Don Juan** does HIV/STI prevention and education for clients. It exists in 7 regions, mostly in bigger cities. In 2008 nearly 3000 contacts with clients have been established in the streets of the red light districts by outreach workers. During the Euro08 special prevention materials and over 36'000 postcards with rules for clients "sex, money and fair play" have been distributed by the outreach workers. On a website for clients with the possibility of anonymous e-mail counselling, in 2008 over 168'000 visitors have been registered and more than 200 men have so far been advised this way. [www.don-juan.ch](http://www.don-juan.ch)

■ **FxW.ch or Fair Sex work**. FxW are recommendations made by an expert group made of sex workers, parlour directors, erotic service publicists, and health professionals. They represent a consensus about what every person working in sex work or using it should be aware of to make the most of this activity and stay healthy. FxW.ch can be announced by sex workers as a downloadable logo.  
[www.fxw.ch](http://www.fxw.ch)

## UNITED KINGDOM

■ **SCOT-PEP** is a peer-led, community development and participation organisation, promoting health and dignity. SCOT-PEP no longer provides drop-in and outreach services as a result of drastic cuts in NHS funding for blood borne virus prevention services for sex workers in Edinburgh, but continues as a volunteer run advocacy and campaigning group providing accurate and non-judgemental information to sex workers in Scotland via our website. We are committed to ensuring that sex workers are afforded

equal measure of dignity, respect and acceptance that others in society enjoy – and expect.

### The Legal Framework

It is not illegal to buy or sell sex within the UK; however, legislation continues to criminalise various aspects of prostitution and the sex industry across all home nations.

Street-based sex workers continue to be fined for 'soliciting' or loitering with intent to 'solicit' in a public place for the purposes of prostitution. Local authorities continue to use Anti-Social Behaviour Orders to exclude sex workers from certain areas or engaging in street prostitution across a defined area. Street-based sex workers continue to be sentenced to terms in prison for non-payment of fines and breaching their ASBO. Clients of street-based sex workers across the UK are now criminalised for seeking to purchase sexual services in public places, which is widely reported to have increased the vulnerability of those working on the streets.

■ The indoor sex industry continues to be criminalised across the UK; it remains a criminal offence to run a brothel, control sex workers for gain, seek to recruit males or females to work as prostitutes, and purchase sexual services from a minor (under 18). It is still not possible for sex workers to work together legally; and increasingly law enforcement operations are charging sex workers who work together with aiding and abetting in running a brothel.

■ Policy and legislation throughout the UK continues to stigmatise sex workers and focuses on treating them as offenders, prioritising funding for rehabilitation or 'routes out' of prostitution, failing to seriously address their need for protection from violence and ignoring their labour rights.

Despite the failure of attempts to further criminalise sex workers and their clients in the 2006 Criminal Justice and Immigration Bill, Westminster is again considering legislation which would criminalise all clients of sex workers controlled for gain, impose compulsory rehabilitation orders on sex workers and give police and local authorities the power to close brothels without convictions. While Scottish politicians are currently proposing to criminalise the purchasing of sex through a back door stage 3

amendment, which will not allow for proper evidence to be taken or a serious debate on such an important issue.

### The Prostitution Scene

According to the UK Network of Sex Work Projects, it is estimated there are approximately 80,000 sex workers working in the British sex industry each year, the same figure as 2006.

#### ■ Work settings

23% of sex workers (5% decrease since 2006) were reported to be working in street prostitution, with an increase in the numbers working on the outskirts of cities and towns.

77% were reported as working indoors; 41% working in parlours/ brothels; 20% in apartments; and 16% in escort services. There has been a significant increase in those working via the Internet as a result of intensive policing of establishments, including sex workers being registered on the national criminal intelligence database.

#### ■ Migration

Projects reported that 41% of female sex workers across the country were migrants (4% increase since 2006). However, London projects reported up to 80% migrant sex workers.

64% of migrants were reported as coming from Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (12% increase since 2006).

### Vulnerability Factors

#### National sex workers

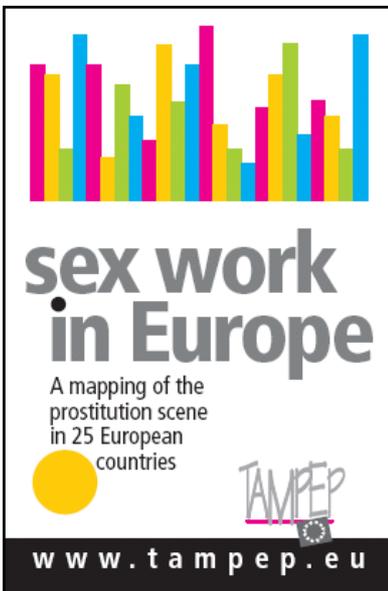
National sex workers vulnerabilities: lack of access to health care, 'client' violence, alcohol & drugs, stigma, and social isolation and exclusion.

#### Migrant sex workers

Migrant sex workers vulnerabilities: social isolation and exclusion, lack of access to health care, legal status, 'client' violence, and lack of protection from the law.

# TAMPEP recommendations

The following recommendations are the result of the TAMPEP Network's analytical work regarding the prostitution setting in Europe today, of the consequences of European legislation on sex work, migration and health on the living and working conditions of sex workers, and of the Network's long experience on outreach activities.



## RECOMMENDATIONS ON BARRIERS

### Gaps in Service Provision

- National mappings should be done on a regular basis, preferably annually as sex work and sex work settings are fluid and mobile. Services for sex workers should operate at times and in locations where they will be accessible.

- When seeking to offer substantial HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment it is vital to work beyond ideological differences. Both service providers and their sponsors should seek common ground for establishing cooperation. Funding institutions should endorse referral and networking and provide necessary

resources to enable such practices. Empowerment should be a key issue for reducing the vulnerabilities of sex workers. An open and non-judgemental partnership of cooperation and referral, focused on the common goal is essential for ensuring comprehensive support and services for sex workers.

- Government policies must address these exclusion scenarios and the health risk issues derived from having in their territory groups which are in fact not covered. It is necessary that sex workers are recognised as an occupational group. The right to work and reside must be made possible for migrant sex workers, as well as their full participation in the public health care system.

- There is a need to provide adequate, effective and specifically targeted services, prevention campaigns regarding HIV and STI, counselling and treatment as well as accommodate space and resources for specific empowerment and networking initiatives for these groups. Community building is a powerful tool for counteracting the effects of compounded discrimination, exclusion and isolation.

- Intervention and prevention activities should consider the involvement of clients as key actors. Addressing clients and their mobility is crucial to health prevention and HIV/STI risk reduction. Campaigns that aim to provide information for clients should consider different prostitution settings, cultural contexts and connotations of sex work, taking advantage of specific concentrations of potential clients (sport events, conventions, tourist resorts, etc.).

- There is a necessity to integrate HIV/STI prevention and drug treatment options into outreach programmes for sex workers. There is a need for a greater diversity of harm reduction activities that are able to respond to the types of drugs consumed and to the specific health risks linked to the use of different drugs. Such programs must also take into consideration the setting of the drug use, the drug users' behaviour and the community where it takes place, e.g. specific approaches for dealing with drug consumption among Roma sex workers.

A holistic approach must consider the high level of injected drug use, disadvantaged living conditions, poor access to health care, risky sexual behaviour, close contact to dealers and to controllers in these settings, client behaviour and the capacity and/or possibility of sex worker to negotiate safe sex practice under the influence of drugs, etc.

- Violence against sex workers needs to be included in gender based violence strategies, protocols need to be developed with policymakers and law enforcement agencies (appropriate to the realities and possibilities in each country), law enforcement officers need to be trained and corruption among law enforcement officers needs to be addressed by establishing police liaisons and complaints procedure. Violence experienced by sex workers must be considered a relevant factor of health risk and of vulnerabilities.

- Governments need to be sensitised to the necessity of providing long-term funding which on a national level aimed at sustainability and continuity for key organisations providing necessary services - particularly prevention work - to reduce the vulnerability of sex workers. Local and national funding for prevention, care and support are interlocking elements that must be guaranteed for a continuous and comprehensive approach.

Moreover, key organizations need to be involved in the creation of national and local financial plans, not just treated as receivers of donations. For this purpose it would be necessary to make the national financial plans transparent.

- Regarding the Government response, the aspect of increased mobility must be considered in creation of all policies and measures. In terms of service providers, cultural mediation (or interpreters) needs to be more widely implemented in public health and social care services. Adjustments should also be made in maintaining long-term contact between sex workers and service provider, e.g. if the sex worker must move, referral could be made to the organizations that could be contacted in the new destination.

- Community involvement in prevention and care efforts must be recognised as a top priority in policy making and funding. It is essential to acknowledge the significance of empowering the

community members, to create leadership models, to implement peer education and to create funded situations for a bottom-up approach and community outreach. In addition, sex workers must be directly involved in and represented in the policy development process.

- In order to empower sex workers, the public campaigns and representations - including materials made specifically for sex workers - must respect and empower them, be non-judgemental and respect their choice of work in the sex industry.

## Structural Barriers to HIV Programming and Services for Sex Workers

### State Level

- Guarantee an effective and comprehensive support system to reduce vulnerability to HIV based on equal access to support and care.
- Guarantee access to prevention, care and treatment, as it is a universal right and a necessary measure in terms of fighting against HIV/AIDS. A better network of services providers is important to provide policy makers with examples of good practice based on the quality guidelines of the VCT (Voluntary Counselling and Testing) protocols.
- Guarantee universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment regardless of one's legal and insurance status.
- Guarantee separate medical care data from police reporting systems (immigration authorities) and provide anti-discrimination and sensitisation training to all health workers and administrators.
- Substitute compulsory health checks for an anonymous and voluntary system of health checks. Mandatory registration for sex workers underlines a discriminatory and stigmatising method.
- Ensure that the national action plans priorities provide resources and clarity, while taking local and regional characteristics into consideration.
- Ensure the creation of partnerships, forums and alliances to guarantee

consistent, uninterrupted access to prevention and health care for all sex workers.

- Ensure sensitisation and training for law enforcement in order to monitor a system of negative effects regarding public order measures connected with public health misuse.
- Develop a framework regarding occupational health and hygiene. This would force managers of indoor establishments to comply with regulations that protect the health of sex workers at the workplace. It is also necessary to develop a network of general health care professionals to offer a broad range of medical support that is not only limited to HIV and STIs.
- Focus on reducing the vulnerability of sex workers to HIV/AIDS in a comprehensive national plan geared toward sustainable long-term intervention programmes that consider the high extent of internationalization and the cross-border migration within the sex industry.
- It is essential to strengthen the cooperation between government agencies and NGOs with extensive experience in working with migrant and mobile sex workers, particularly the cooperation between organisations across borders.

### Service Providers Level

- Improve referral system between social care and medical care to meet the needs of all different kinds of sex workers.
- Organise anti-discrimination and sensitisation training courses for law enforcement agents, social workers medical doctors, health and social assistance administrators nationwide.
- Develop low-threshold services together with NGOs and sex worker groups.
- Improve the coverage either through an overarching, umbrella structure or increase the capacity of outreach activities of already existing entities.
- Consider all relevant areas as interlinked and incorporate them in your measures.
- Consider anonymous and free voluntary counselling and treatment, and STI screening and care as an integrated part of the health care system. Consider a close cooperation with outreach activities,

particularly with NGOs and community based organisations with language and cultural competences, in order to meet the needs of migrant and mobile sex workers.

- Consider creating training on cultural mediation, working with an international staff, cooperating with migrant sex worker community organizations, and peer education programmes targeting sex workers in order to reach key members of migrant sex worker communities.
- Increase the number of staff members with migration background.
- Consider frequent assessment of the needs of the service users and adaptation of the offer. Regarding the cross-border and mobile and migrant sex worker population, it is necessary to network and exchange assessment and information with other service providers across borders.
- Consider new and/or additional services geared toward covering the needs of (new) target groups. These services should primarily focus on providing useful (legal) information, bridging language barriers and increasing the self-confidence of sex workers providing measurements aimed at empowerment and support.
- Consider developing a specific kind of cross-border cooperation to reach sex workers who work in those regions.
- Consider addressing the topic of *conflict mediation* in order to mediate and support the rights of sex workers, particularly the right of protection and safety in their workplace. The voices of service providers and of sex workers must be recognized in the policy developments on prostitution on a local level, particularly regarding the protection and safety of sex workers in their work settings, especially during law enforcement actions and clampdowns.

### Sex Worker Level

- When providing information for sex workers consider working together with sex workers when compiling, conceptualising materials and disseminating information.
- Improve and stimulate the exchange of information, networking possibilities and forums among sex workers. It is absolutely necessary to include reliable and correct legal information by forming

alliances with experts who work with migrant sex workers, in order to disseminate, prepare and offer useful information.

- Provide funding and resources for non-judgmental, specialised language classes and study material (texts, audio and video) tailored to meet the needs of sex workers who are learning a new language.

- Increase sex workers rights so that they can rely on legal protection if they choose to seek help from the public authorities. Increase their possibilities of exchange and self-empowerment.

- Grant all sex workers the same rights, regardless of their residential, insurance or work status.

- Include sex work as a focus of anti-discrimination and sensitisation training for public officials, including health administrators and social workers. Service providers should offer support, accompaniment and/or training for sex workers for them to gain information about the different authorities.

- Consider the legalisation of resident migrant sex workers and the creation of low threshold outreach programs with linguistic capacities to reach migrant groups.

- Increase information provision online, mobile service provision units, telephone counselling and virtual networks.

## Removing structural barriers for universal access

### Diversity in the sex worker community

Multidisciplinary interventions are called for, particularly those that focus on the gender-based violence and sex workers' social vulnerability.

Comprehensive efforts are needed in policy and service development. What is essential is a global approach, which engages various actors, local communities, the states, international agencies, public and non-public service providers and sex workers themselves.

## Human Rights

It is essential that service provision for sex workers are done within a human rights framework.

### Service providers and migration, mobility and deportation

- It is essential to find methods of reaching the potential groups who want to migrate, those who are in transit and those who already migrated. The offer and structure of services needs to be continuous and comprehensive in order to reduce the vulnerabilities of these groups.

- Comprehensive policies of destination/repatriating countries must address the inexistence of a support mechanism in most of migrant sex workers countries of origin.

- An effective referral system must be part of a sustainable and continuous service. International cooperation, integrated services and preparedness to work with mobile and migrant sex workers are vital in creating proper coverage.

### Civil Society Involvement

- Governments must acknowledge the expertise of NGOs and community based organisations (CBO) by incorporating them in policy-making processes.

- It is essential to develop and strengthen international cooperation, by building NGO and CBO networks through setting up referral systems, sharing good practices and knowledge.

- An integral element in building the capacity for the provision of services in reducing the vulnerability of sex workers to HIV/AIDS is ensuring empowerment and community participation of sex workers on all levels.

### Criminalisation of the Sex Industry and Law Enforcement

- Comprehensive service provision should involve law enforcement authorities and public and private sector engagement.

- Stimulate more involvement and cooperation between those involved in national platforms on HIV/AIDS, civil society representatives and sex workers, in order to reach synergy and the harmonisation of efforts towards reducing

the vulnerability of sex workers affected by violence.

- The impact of law enforcement actions on sex workers' vulnerability is exceptionally important to keep the focus when looking at issues of criminal activities within the sex industry.

- Consider the development of a policy framework that focuses on the safety and well being of sex workers, ensuring equal treatment and protection under the justice system, regardless of their status.

## Sensitisation

Awareness rising in the community should have the ultimate objective of empowering sex workers. Its impact would favour a more peaceful cohabiting and better mutual understanding, decreasing the vulnerabilities of sex workers.

## Government responsibility

- There is the need to call attention of policy makers to the vulnerability of sex workers to HIV and STI, to sensitise politicians to ensuring an appropriate balance between prevention and treatment as well as protect sex workers' human rights to access non-discriminatory health services, including prevention, counselling, testing and treatment.

- There is the need to facilitate, encourage and support the participation of sex workers, within a community participation framework, in all levels of activities developed for them



## RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLICY

### General

### Recommendations

- Acknowledge the intersectionality of sex work, migration and health policies and their effects on the living and working conditions of sex workers. Adopt and implement holistic policies that include sex workers and protect their human rights.
- While sex workers are marginalised and discriminated against through social stigmatisation and (legal) exclusion, they are, at the same time, part of the 'general population' and have the same needs and rights as other individuals. Do not exclude sex workers by treating them as a threat to public health and security; instead ensure that public policies take into account the health, well-being and security of vulnerable groups, including sex workers.
- Include sex workers and sex workers' projects as experts into all phases of policy design, development, implementation and evaluation that affect sex workers and their wellbeing.
- Together with sex workers and sex workers' organisations, ensure the continued monitoring of policies, their implementation and outcome with respect to the full protection of sex workers' human rights, including their access to public health and social care services.

- Provide sufficient resources for sex workers' organisations and (health and social care) services in order to ensure the availability and accessibility of non-discriminative support services.
- Trafficking in human beings and sex work are two essentially different issues and should be treated as such. Trafficking in human beings is a severe human rights violation while sex work is per definition an occupational activity. Anti-trafficking policies should not be used as instruments to target sex workers, in particular migrant and mobile sex workers, and curtail their rights. Instead, all measures should be based on an inclusive human rights framework.

### Recommendations regarding SEX WORK policies

- Acknowledge the realities of sex work in the European countries and implement politics that protect the human rights of sex workers, including migrant and mobile sex workers. Adopt a stance that actively seeks to protect the human rights of sex workers and is based on non-discrimination and inclusion.
- Abolish laws and policies that criminalise sex workers, in particular all punitive measures that violate sex workers' human rights.
- Respect and protect the human rights of sex workers, including the right to work, the right to free choice of employment and the right to just and favourable work conditions.
- Sex work policies should provide empowerment and legal protection. These are core elements for ensuring autonomy and independence and preventing dependencies and exploitation.

### Recommendations regarding MIGRATION policies

- Acknowledge the global reality of migration, including transnationalism in the field of sex work. Provide for the possibility for migrant sex workers to obtain residence and work permits in order to increase the autonomy and

independence of migrant sex workers and to prevent dependencies and exploitation.

- Respect and protect the human rights of migrant sex workers, including the rights to freedom of movement and residence, the right to equal protection under the law and the right to the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health.
- Consider migrant and mobile sex workers as active agents of choice.
- Ensure the participation of migrant and mobile sex workers in the design, development, implementation and evaluation of migration policies.

### Recommendations regarding the public HEALTH care sector

- Base public health services on the principles of universal accessibility. The use of all services must be voluntary and confidential.
- Ensure sex workers' access to public health services independent of their legal, insurance and/or occupational status.
- Ensure immediate and comprehensive STI, HIV and AIDS treatment, care and support – independent of legal, insurance and/or occupational status.
- Provide periodic sensitisation trainings on the issues of sex work and migration for the staff of public health care services in order to reduce stigmatisation and discrimination of sex workers. Ensure the inclusion of sex workers as experts in the design and implementation of such trainings.
- In recognition of the transnationality of sex work, include cultural mediators as professionals and as integral part of the team into the staff of public health care services.



## RECOMMENDATIONS ON OUTREACH

**E**nsure dissemination of voluntary (initiated by the service user or provider) HIV and STI counselling, testing and treatment good practice protocols to all healthcare providers working with sex workers. Explore how bad practices can be constructively challenged through training programmes developed by community-based organisations and sex workers.

- Develop training programmes and good practice guidelines for mapping, analysing and establishing the configuration of sex work settings and appropriate service delivery.
- Develop training and good practice guidance for negotiating with gatekeepers, both controllers and managers, to enhance service providers' understanding and ability to successfully negotiate access to sex workers in both 'public' and 'hidden' sex work settings.
- Develop good practice guidance for promoting safer sex and attitudinal change amongst clients of sex workers.
- Develop training and empowerment programmes for sex workers to improve their negotiating skills with clients and managers.
- Develop campaigns to influence clients' behaviour and attitudes in relation to sex workers and their

responsibilities around HIV and STI prevention.

- Develop personal safety and crime reporting guidelines for sex workers, projects and law enforcement agencies.
- Develop training programmes appropriate and tailored to law enforcement agencies.
- Develop cooperation and partnerships between service providers, especially those working with vulnerable young people.
- Develop good practice guidelines for conflict resolution and mediation. Prepare a procedure for dealing with complaints, so that sex workers know their concerns will be taken seriously and dealt with effectively.
- Develop awareness and anti-discrimination training programmes for law enforcement officers, health professionals and social service providers in relation to working with both migrant and national sex workers.
- Develop a skill-set for sex work projects in recording and writing up processes and good practice guidelines and protocols in simple and user-friendly formats.
- Ensure all sex work pilot projects have a minimum of three years' funding to enable the services to be established, implemented and evaluated. Short-term funding does not allow for trust to be built up between sex workers and service providers, nor for any meaningful evaluation.
- Develop local and national networks of sex work projects and those working directly with sex workers to facilitate sharing knowledge and good practice and sustain regional networks to facilitate international exchange.



## RECOMMENDED!

- **Empowerment, dignity, respect and a non-judgmental attitude** must be part of every activity for and with sex workers.
- **The involvement of sex workers should be a rule.** Their involvement may differ depending on context and task, for instance in planning services, campaigns and training, in peer activity, in peer work, etc. If sex workers are not involved from the beginning, they must be informed beforehand about what you are going to do and why. Make sure sex workers are kept informed about upcoming campaigns, developments and outcomes.
- **Have a well-structured and realistic plan, whatever you do.** You should have a structure including how you work, when you work, where you work, and with whom you work. But mainly, you must know *why* you are doing what you are doing.
- **Always have something to offer.** Your services should be useful to sex workers. If possible, offer something warm when it is cold and something cool and/or refreshing when it is hot. Be flexible.
- **Sex workers' lives do not revolve only around sex work!** STIs, laws and violence are not the only things you can talk about with sex workers. For instance, you can talk about life in general, pets, gardening ... the list is endless.
- **Always evaluate your work and ensure that needs assessment is ongoing.** Basic data and reliable needs assessment and mapping are very important in order to have a better picture of the environment, working conditions, needs of sex workers, and barriers they encounter in accessing health and social services.
- **Incorporate policy analysis into your work.** Remember that you are not operated in a vacuum when you conduct outreach or social work.
- **Networking and cooperation are essential for advocacy.** Participate and strengthen your local, national and international networks. Make sure there is coordination and cooperation between potential human resources and expertise. Advocacy campaigns should link in with long term activities. Be sure to identify your key informants before launching advocacy campaigns. Awareness should be raised among key agents of sex

workers' health, labour, migration and human rights.

■ **Guarantee ongoing work and a trustworthy service.** The regularity of activities and the continuity of services offered are essential for the efficiency and effectiveness of your work. To make sure you build trust-based relationships, ensure consistency and long-term interventions. For instance, use mobile units with regular health care facilities in localities where sex workers have no access to health services.

■ **Confidentiality and anonymity are a must!** Even in places where sex workers are not criminalised, wider social stigma continues to exist. Sex workers won't trust you unless they can be assured that the information they provide is kept safe, and won't be passed on to anyone else without very good reason.

■ **Have a media strategy.** Be confident about the issues you want to discuss. Present them in a clear, concise and objective manner to avoid misunderstandings. Be careful with any personal information given to the media. Negotiate to review the article before printed.

■ **Respect sex workers' privacy and local codes.**

■ **Respect sex workers' right to say no, even to you!**

■ **Respect sex workers' choices!** You can offer them possibilities and alternatives, but the last word is theirs!

■ **Take good care of your peers.**

■ **Take good care of your staff.**

■ **Be sensitive to the cultural context.** Cultural mediators should be an integral part of the staff team when working with migrant sex workers.

■ **Empower sex workers.** Study and explore what empowerment really means in practice.



## BE AWARE!

- ... that things may not always be as they seem.
- ... that you should not strengthen pre-existing stereotypes. For example, if you are using old clichés in campaigns, do so carefully and tactfully.
- ... that you might be criticised. Be prepared for the potential consequences of raising issues which challenge official policies in your area or your country.
- ... when co-operating with the police, politicians, and the media. Try to find trustworthy contacts.
- ... when doing a needs assessment: you should be able to respond to the needs as comprehensively and effectively as possible.
- ... of the diversity amongst sex workers!
- ... of building your project on a sustainable basis. Be realistic about your expectations and motivations. Be aware of the limits of your own work.
- ... of the impact of law enforcement and controllers on the living and working conditions of sex workers. Be aware of all external factors combined!
- ... of cultural differences and sensitivities.
- ... of your goals. Clarify what you are doing, why you are doing it, and what you are aiming for. Make sure you have a clear message. Carefully analyse the field and the actual needs of sex workers when carrying out your project.
- ... of identifying the proper stakeholders.
- ... of your own attitudes towards clients and organisers/managers of the sex industry. Not all clients and managers wish to harm or exploit sex workers.
- ... assume nothing. Check out with sex workers the reality of their working conditions.
- Be sure that the language and the concepts you use are non-judgmental.
- Be prepared to change your plans according to changes in the environment.

## AVOID!

- Never break the trust of sex workers! Do not do things without their permission!
- Never abuse sex workers for your own purposes (to get funding, to get information, etc.).
- Never go to the public or publish your statistics without evaluating the consequences for sex workers.
- Never interrupt sex workers' work. Do not interfere or break the rules of their business.
- Never conduct outreach work or go to meet sex workers in the company of police officers.
- Never conduct outreach work or go to meet sex workers in the company of journalists without having asked sex workers' permission beforehand.
- Do not organise your work, or run campaigns in conflict with the interests of sex workers. Bear in mind that sex workers are not a homogenous group.
- Do not be too visible and conspicuous when doing outreach work. It might jeopardise the anonymity of sex workers. Many sex workers wish to work unnoticed in their environment.
- Do not patronise or lecture sex workers or their clients.
- Do not create dependency of sex workers on social workers, organisations or any sort of services.
- Do not try to limit sex workers' choice.



# TAMPEP resources

## **TAMPEP General Documents**

- **Flyer on aims of project and network members** | English, German
- **Position Paper on Trafficking** | English
- **Beyond Tolerance and Compassion for the Recognition of Rights** | English, Italian
- **Position Paper on Migration and Sex Work** | English, Italian
- **Policies on Sex Work & Health** | English, German

## **TAMPEP Training Manuals for Outreach Workers**

- **Cultural Mediators in the Area of Prostitution** | Transnational Training Manual | Leonardo da Vinci Programme, December 1998 - April 2001 | English
- **Peer-Educator's Manual** | Course of Prevention and Hygiene | Albanian, Dutch, English, Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish
- **Manuale del Corso di Formazione per Mediatori Culturali** | Italian

## **Information for Female Sex Workers**

### **TAMPEP CD-Roms 1 & 2**

Flyers on: **Condoms & Lubricants** | **When the condom bursts or slips off** | **Viral Hepatitis** | **HIV & AIDS** | **Contraception & Pregnancy** | **Protect yourself** | **Safer drug use** | **Sexually Transmitted Infections** | Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai, Ukrainian

## **Information for Transgender Sex Workers**

Flyers on: **Hormones, silicone, breast development, transformation-operation & epilation** | **STI, AIDS & Hepatitis B** | English, Portuguese, Spanish

## **Leaflets and booklets**

- **Augusta's Way - Safe Sex** comic-strip with general information | **Augusta's Way - Security** comic-strip | **Augusta's Way - Sabrina Peer Educator** comic strip | English
- **Love & Care for Myself** | booklets and poster | Albanian, English, Polish, Russian, Spanish
- **Teuta dhe Shoget e Saj**, comic-strip on security at work | Albanian
- **L'AIDS, il virus HIV, la Siero-positività e il Sistema Immunitario** | Italian
- **Everything OK?** | Bulgarian, English, German, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Thai
- **Dichos & Diretes** | Spanish
- **Dicas & Jeitinhos** | Portuguese

## **Books and Reports**

- **Health, Migration, Sex Work: The Experience of TAMPEP** | TAMPEP International Foundation, 1999 | English
- **TAMPEP Final Reports from 1993 until 2007** | English, German, Italian
- Series of reports on: **Institutional Strengthening and Support for HIV Prevention Activities** | **European Overview of HIV and Sex Work** | National Reports on HIV and Sex Work from **Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Ukraine** | **Gap Analysis of Service Provision to Sex Workers in Europe** | **Skills, Training and Good Practice Tools** | TAMPEP International Foundation, 2007 | English

## **Manuals produced as a result of common projects**

- **Hustling for Health**, Developing Services for Sex Workers in Europe | In collaboration with Europap, 1998 | English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish
- **Services in the Window**: a Manual for Interventions in the World of Migrant Prostitution | Assunta Signorelli & Mariangela Treppete, 2001 | A Transnet project collaboration between Comitato per I Diritti Civili delle Prostitute (Italy), TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands),

International Network for the Fight against Social Exclusion, ExclusionNet, Azienda Servizi Sanitari No 1 Triestina (Italy), Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims of Ioannina (Greece) | [www.lucciole.org](http://www.lucciole.org) | English, Italian

- **Professional Training for Peer Educators in Prostitution** | A 2004 FENARETE project collaboration between Comitato per I Diritti Civili delle Prostitute (Italy), Autres Regards (France), Amnesty for Women (Germany), Lithuanian AIDS Centre (Lithuania), TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands), La Strada (Poland), TADA (Poland) | [www.fenarete.org](http://www.fenarete.org) | English, French, Hungarian, Italian, Romanian

- **Gender Street**, a transnational initiative on social and labour inclusion for trafficked women and migrant sex workers | A 2004 Equal programme collaboration between Progetto Strada (Italy), Life (Italy), TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands), BLinN (Netherlands), Sila/LEFOE (Austria) | English

- **Met het oog op de toekomst**, De praktijk van schooling voor slachtoffers van mensenhandel, 2005 | A collaboration between TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands), BLinN (Bonded Labour in Nederland) | Dutch

- **Resources for Sex Workers' Health & Rights**, a collection of resources by and for sex workers and sex workers' rights advocates to further the health and rights of sex workers | A collaboration between the International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE) and the TAMPEP Project (European Network for HIV/STI Prevention and Health Promotion among Migrant Sex Workers) | All the resources in this collection are drawn from actions and tools developed across Europe | The [resources gathered by the](#)

[ICRSE](#) focus on sex worker empowerment and on combating violence | The [resources gathered by TAMPEP](#) focus on health and rights | The resources are available on CD-Rom and at [www.sexworkeurope.org](http://www.sexworkeurope.org) and [www.tampep.eu](http://www.tampep.eu) | English, French, Russian, Spanish

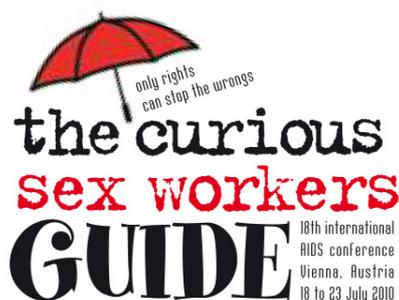
### **TAMPEP VIII resources**

- **Sex Work in Europe**, a mapping of the prostitution scene in 25 European countries | English
- **Sex Work, Migration and Health**, a report on the intersections of legislations and policies regarding sex work, migration and health in Europe | English
- **Work Safe in Sex Work**, a European Manual on Good Practices in Work with and for Sex Workers | English [www.services4sexworker.eu](http://www.services4sexworker.eu), an online directory of services for sex workers across Europe | English, French, Russian

These publications originate from the project TAMPEP (European Network for HIV/STI Prevention and Health Promotion among Migrant Sex Workers) which has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Public Health Programme.

The sole responsibility of this publication lies with the author and the Executive Agency is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

**These resources are available under [www.tampep.eu](http://www.tampep.eu) or on request at [info@tampep.eu](mailto:info@tampep.eu)**



## **Rights Here, Right Now**

# The IAC 2010 in Vienna

**T**he 18<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference, which will take place in Vienna, Austria, from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2010, will have as central theme the promotion and protection of human rights as a prerequisite to a successful response to HIV/AIDS.

Its motto **Rights Here, Right Now** emphasises the right to dignity and self-determination, to equal access to health care and to life-saving health programmes. The IAC 2010 will therefore be a platform for sex workers from around the world to bring up their issues and needs regarding HIV/AIDS and sex work.

NSWP, the **Global Network of Sex Work Projects**, will coordinate all sex work related sessions and activities at the Conference, including a Network Space for sex workers and sex work projects.

TAMPEP will be present at all those activities and will have its own booth, which will be available for all TAMPEP members to exhibit their documents and materials.

The **Curious Sex Workers Guide** brings more information about the different possibilities for sex workers and sex workers' projects to participate at the Conference.

More information under:

[www.nswp.org](http://www.nswp.org)

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